JUMP COMICS

ピンチ・ピンチ・ピンチ!!

巻ノ二十四

NARUTO
-ナルト-

岸本斉史

岸本斉史

Naruto's already at volume 24! In volume 24 of *Dragon Ball**, Goku was about to fight Ginyu. It was so awesome, I was way too hyper reading it... I gotta make *Naruto* more exciting!!

—*Masashi Kishimoto, 2004*

(* Vol. 24 of *Dragon Ball* was released as Vol. 8 of *Dragon Ball Z* in the U.S. - Ed.)

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

JUMP COMICS

NARUTO

-ナルト-

VOL. 24
UNORTHODOX

STORY AND ART BY
MASASHI KISHIMOTO

主な登場人物

Sasuke
うちはサスケ

うずまき
Naruto ナルト

春野サクラ
Sakura

音の四人衆

The Sound Ninja Four

THE STORY SO FAR...

Naruto was once the bane of the Konohagakure Ninja Academy. Despite the rough start, he and his friends Sasuke and Sakura successfully join the ranks of the ninja. But during the final tournament of the Third Chunin Exam, the nefarious Orochimaru launches *Operation Destory Konoha*, during which the Third Hokage sacrifices his own life.

In the aftermath, Tsunade steps up to become the Fifth Hokage. Charmed by the power of Orochimaru, Sasuke joins up with the Sound Ninja Four. During a battle with the Sound Four, Choji and Neji both fall, but Naruto, Shikamaru and Kiba are still standing...

https://discord.gg/ZTmzect

NARUTO
ーナルトー

VOL. 24
UNORTHODOX

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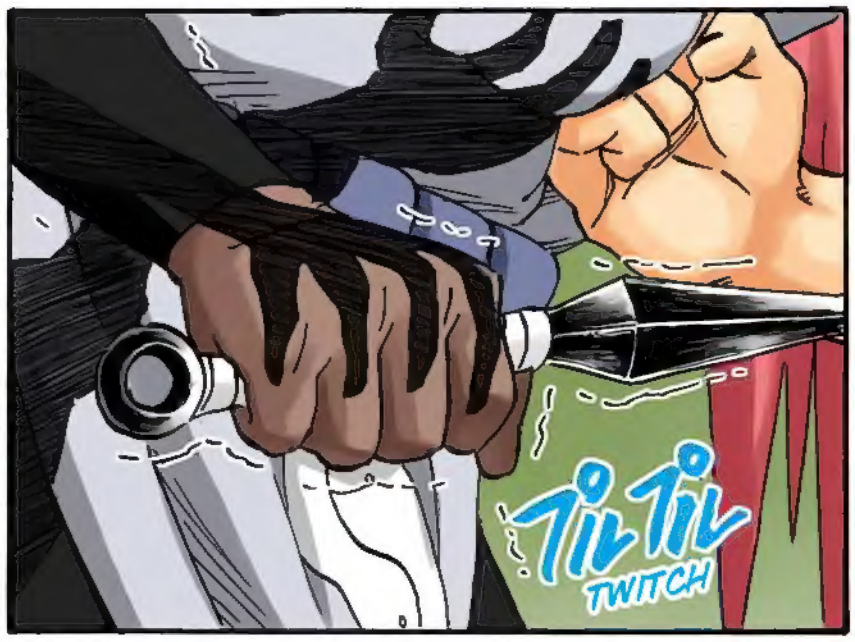
209: HELP ARRIVES!!

209：助っ人、参上!!

THROBTHROB


ピルピル
TWITCH

YOU MAY BE STUPID... BUT YOU'RE BRAVE.
HMPH... I GOTTA GIVE IT TO YOU...

AND I'M SUCH A NICE GUY.

.....

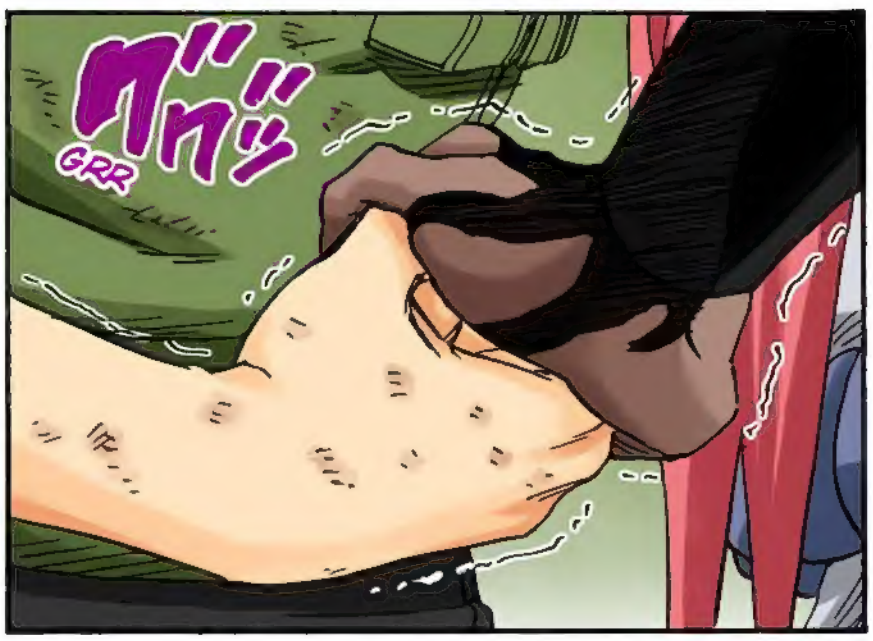
SHF

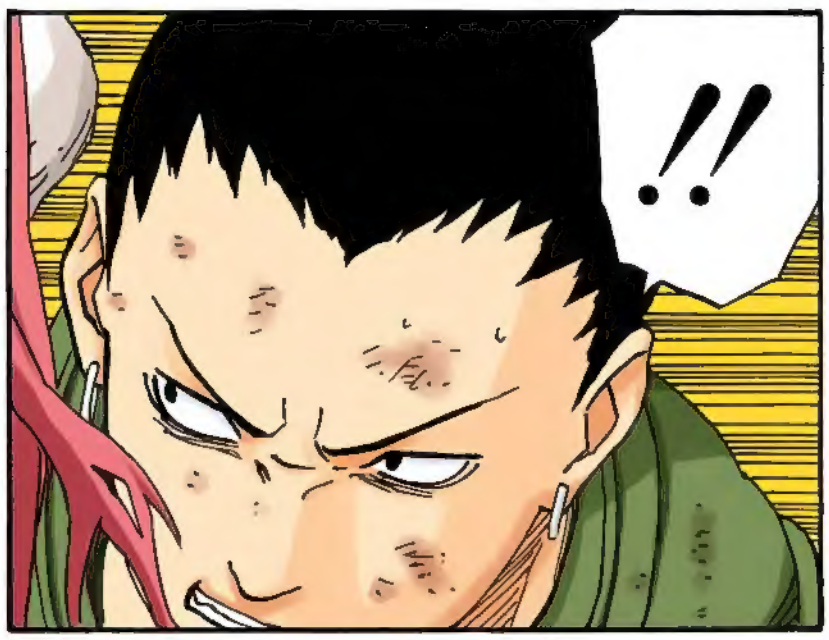
THEN AGAIN, DO YOU REALLY FIT THE DEFINITION...? NAH, GUESS NOT.

SEE, IT'S AGAINST MY CODE TO STRIKE A LADY.

WSSH

BAM


GRR


!!

BUT I AM NOT LOSING THIS...
SKRRT
RRG

NUTS...
I CAN'T SUBDUE HER COM-PLETELY. NOT JUST YET.

SO YOU BLOCKED MY GENJUTSU. DON'T LET IT GO TO YOUR STINKING HEAD!

ALMOST THERE...

HGH ...

.....!

GRR

SKUNNG

GWUR

GWUR

GWUR

ZWURR

ZWUR

!?

GRRR

ガブ…っ

ズ"ズ"ズ"ズ"ズ"ズ"ズ"ズ"

ZWURR

ZWURR

……

I GOT HER THIS CLOSE, BUT STILL SHE KEEPS PUSHING BACK!

WHAT'S UP WITH HER CHAKRA...

BUT IF I LET GO, I'M DEAD.

THIS SHADOW PARALYSIS EATS UP WAY TOO MUCH CHAKRA.

MMF

CRAK

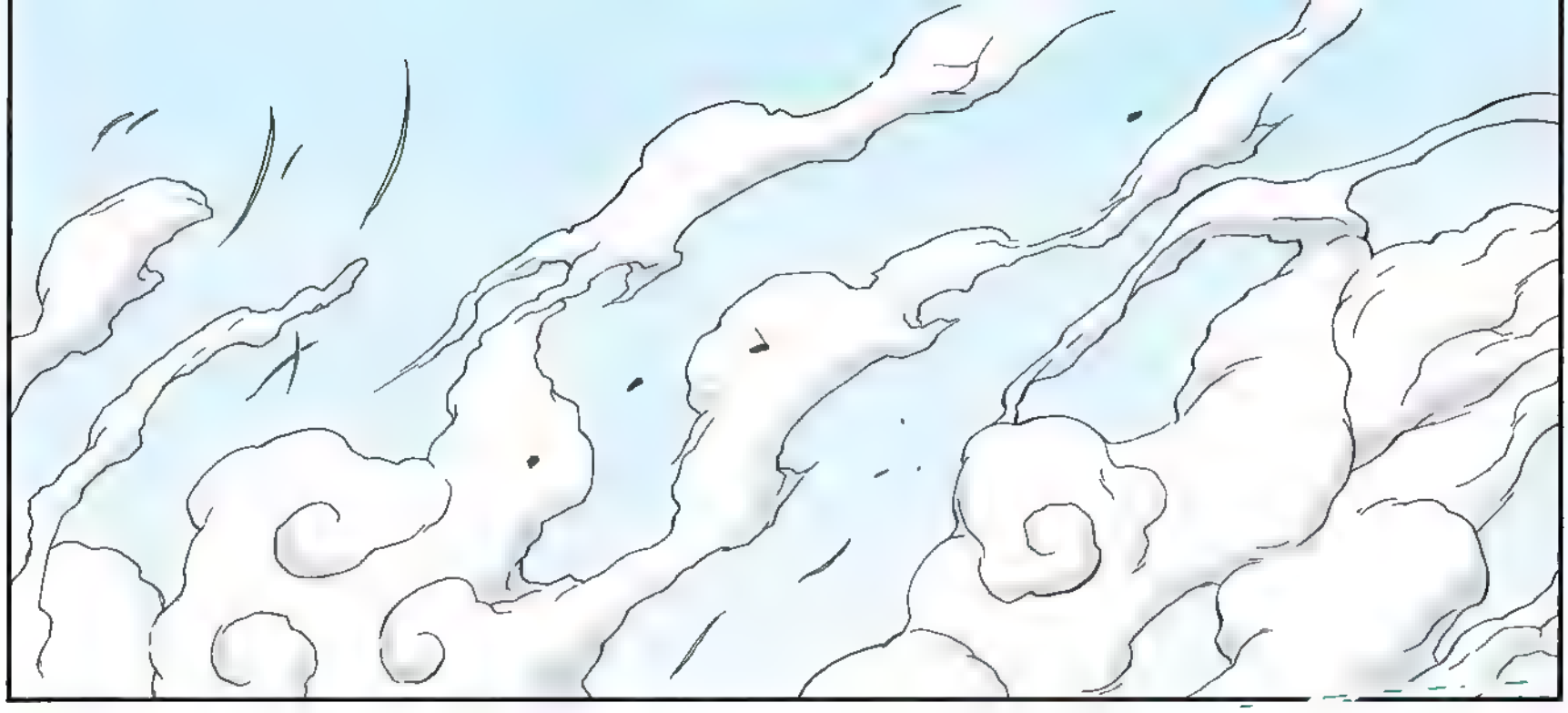
I'VE GOTTA FINISH HER OFF.

ZZZ

URK...

GRR... RRUH...

MMPF



HOOOOO
SHAA

WOOP

FWIW

WHOA!!!

SWAK

SWAK

SWAK

SWAK

SHOOM

!

TWIST

FU FU FU

POOF

POOF

POOF

POOF

POOF

Od

.....

WEEE

ONE BLOW, AGAINST ALL THOSE SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGERS...

MAN, IS THIS GUY STRONG...

ONE MORE LEFT TO GO.

THIS IS OUR FIRST STEP TOWARD... LORD OROCHI-MARU'S DESIGN.

WE'VE WAITED TOO LONG... BUT THE TIME IS NIGH.

SSSSSS

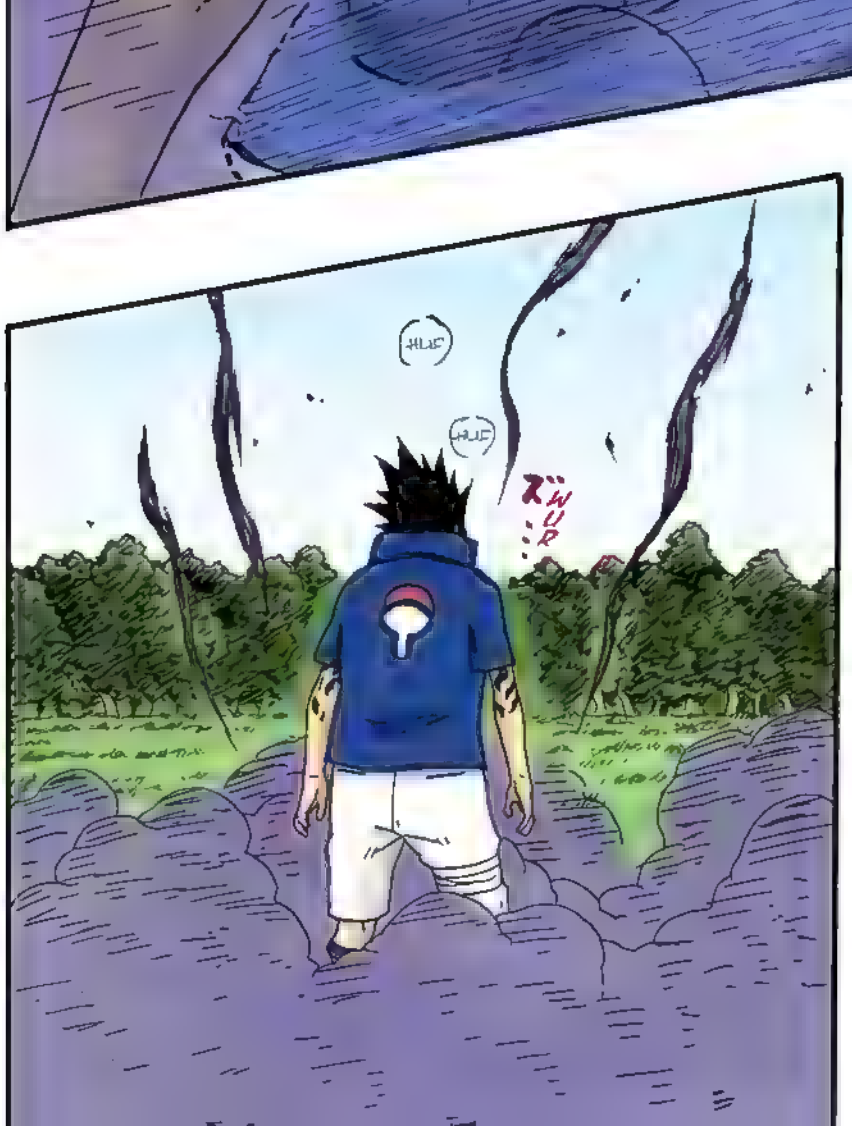
.....!!

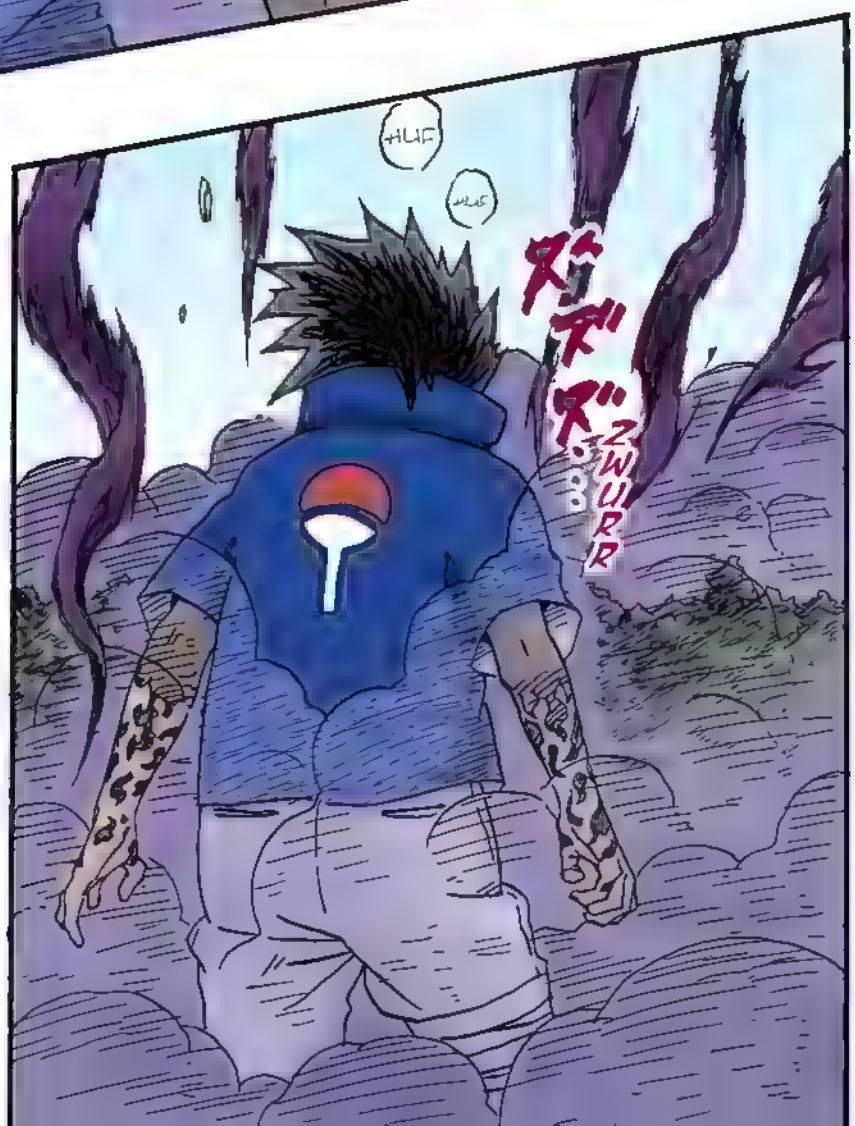
!!!

BOMF

SHRIP

SHRAK


HUF
HUF
ZWURR


HUF
HUF
ZWURR

……!?

……

……

SASUKE...

!?

HEH... HEH HEH...

COME ON! LET'S GO!

SASUKE! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' HERE?!

HEH...

HEH HEH...

HEY...

SASUKE ...

.....

.....

I KNOW YOU CAN HEAR ME!!

SASUKE! WAIT!!

FSSH

WSSH

WSSH

...IN DEATH.

WSST

FORGET IT...

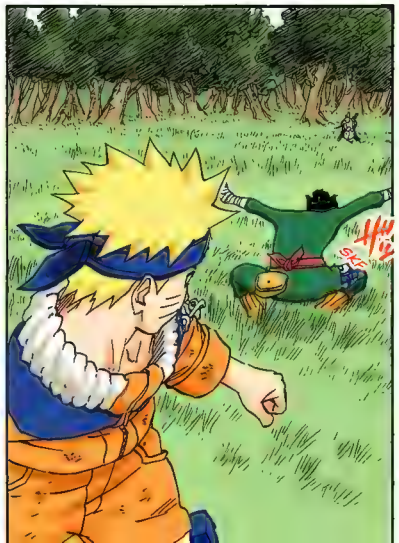
!?

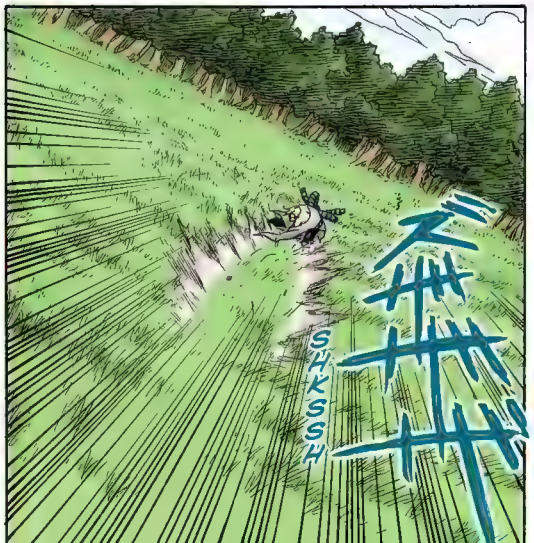
JOLT

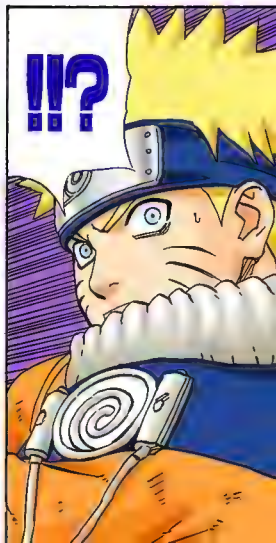
KONOHA SENPU! KONOHA HURRI-CANE!!!
木ノ葉旋風!!!
OPA
KOW

FIP

WHO...?




SHKSSH


!!?

THE NAME'S ROCK LEE!
KONOHA'S HANDSOME BLUE BEAST IS BACK...

BUSHY BROWS ...!

.....

KWAH

!!

NARUTO! I'LL HANDLE IT! JUST GET TO SASUKE!

HOW'S IT YOU'RE...

I THOUGHT ...

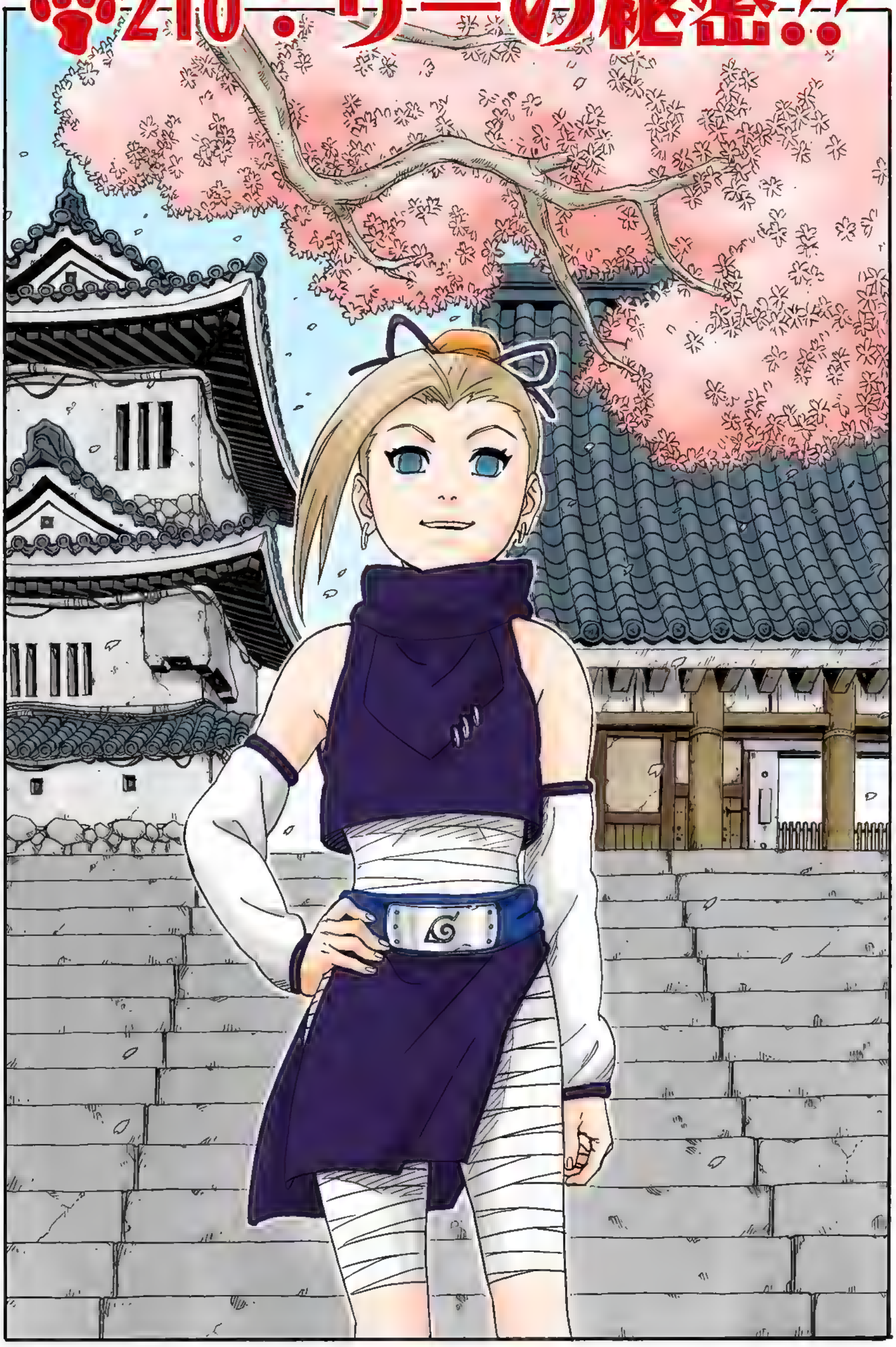
NOT AS EASY AS THE OTHERS.

HE'S...

LEAVE THIS GUY TO ME!

210: LEE'S SECRET!!

ナンバー 210：リーの秘密(ひみつ)!!



HOOOOO

BONES...?

HE USES HIS BONES TO ATTACK.

CAREFUL, BUSHY BROW!

SHINNG

!

WIP

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! GO! NOW!!

HE'S SUPER STRONG.

.....

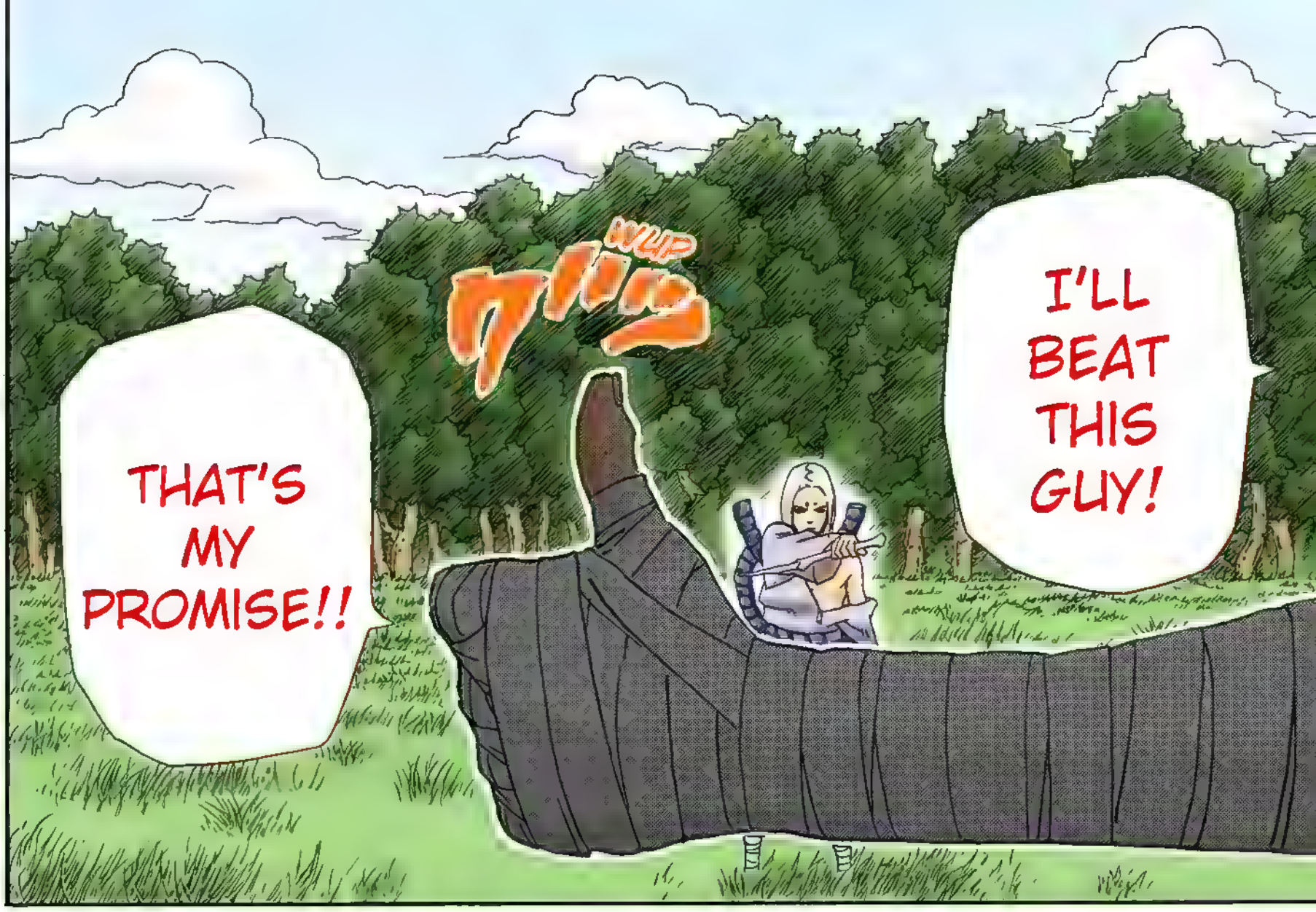
REMEMBER, YOU PLAYED THE NICE GUY AND PROMISED SAKURA!

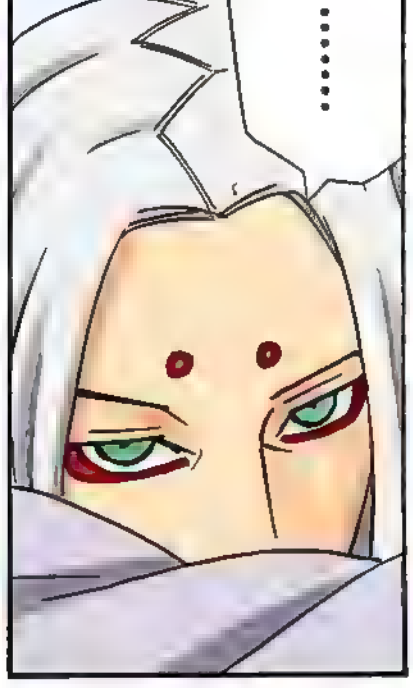
NARUTO...

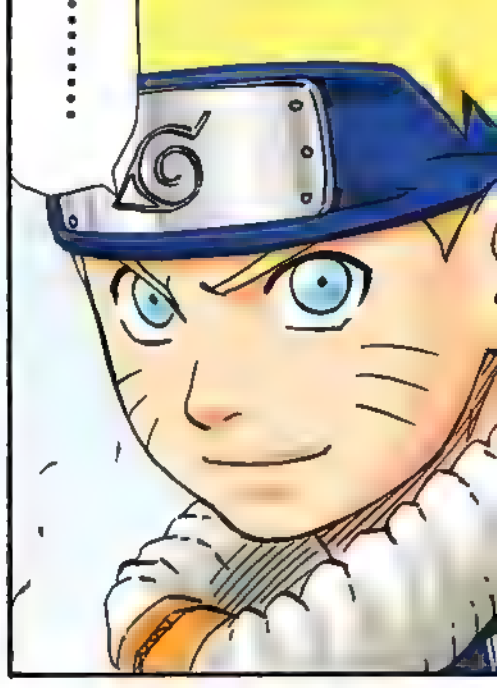
THAT'S MY PROMISE OF A LIFE TIME!!

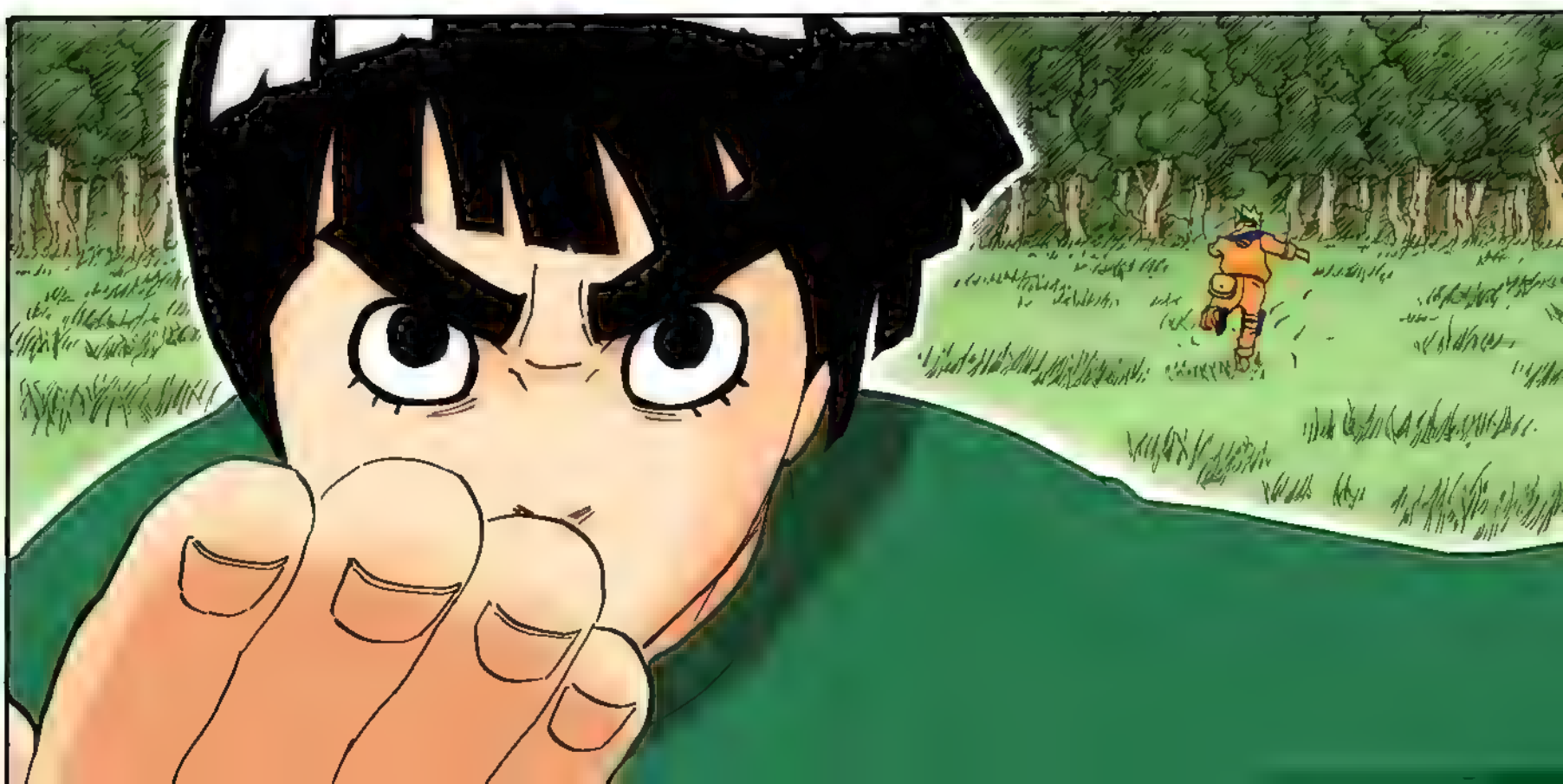
IT'S OKAY. I'LL BRING BACK SASUKE FOR SURE!

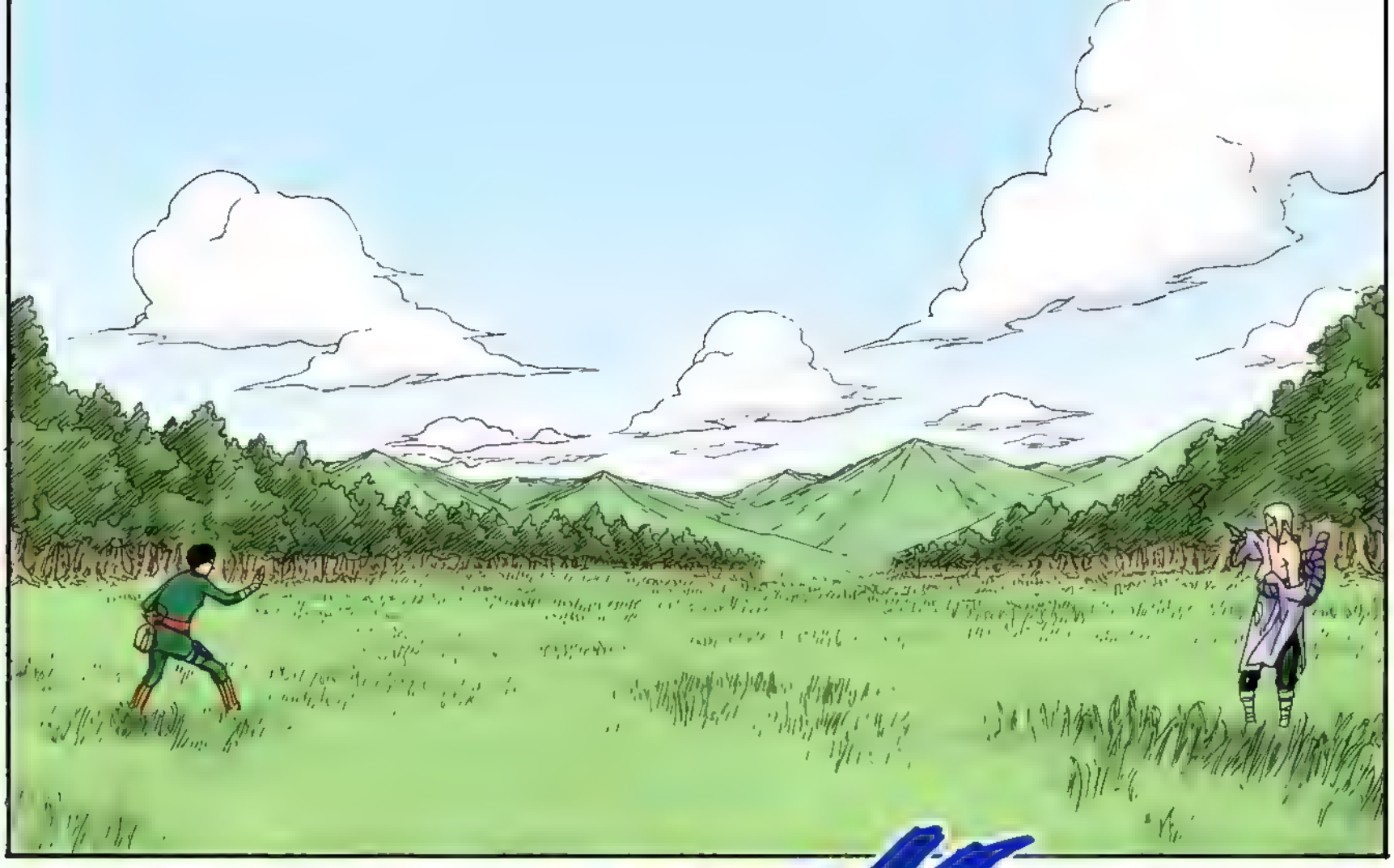
.....

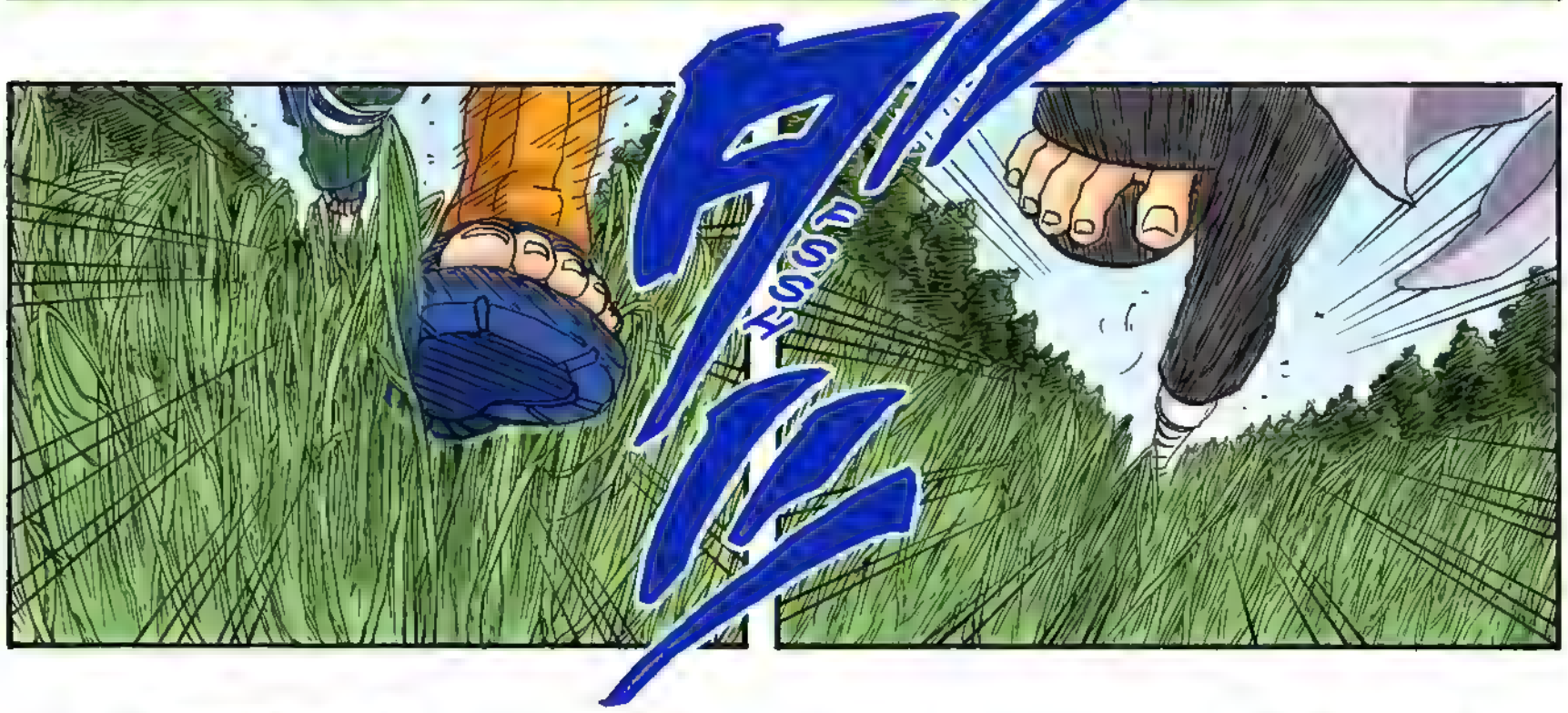

KYUP
THAT'S MY PROMISE!!
I'LL BEAT THIS GUY!










ASSAULT

WE SHOULD THROW TOGETHER A TEAM OF JONIN AND SEND THEM IN AS BACKUP...

I MEAN, GRANTED, WE WERE COMING OFF A MISSION, AND OUT OF CHAKRA...

BUT LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO US JONIN.

AGAINST FOES LIKE THAT... A HANDFUL OF GENIN WON'T DO.

BUT MAN... IF IT WAS SASUKE INSIDE THAT CASKET...

RIGHT NOW OUR PRIORITY IS AVOIDING WAR WITH THE OTHER NATIONS.

EVEN IF THE SHARINGAN WERE TO FALL INTO OROCHIMARU'S HANDS...

AFTER OROCHIMARU'S ATTACK, KONOHA HAS LOST ITS MANDATE AS A PRINCIPAL TERRITORY.

YOU KNOW THE SITUATION. ALL OUR JONIN AND CHUNIN ARE BEING MOBILIZED TO NIP POTENTIAL DANGERS IN THE BUD AT HOME AND ABROAD...

WE CAN'T DO THAT...

I KNOW... I'M NOT AS STUPID AS I LOOK.

HE'LL BE BACK AS SOON AS HE REGAINS HIS POWER...

BUT... THIS SITUATION WITH OROCHIMARU...

IT'S NOT SOMETHING WE CAN KEEP PUTTING OFF.

I'VE ALREADY TAKEN PRE-CAUTIONARY MEASURES.

FWH

THOP

!

THIS WAY.

HUF

HUF

FWIW

SHK

WHAT ABOUT LEE?! HOW IS HE?!! TELL ME!!

BUT NEVER MIND THAT!!

DID YOU! SUCCEED?

GUY?! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

NO, I... I TOOK CARE OF IT. AND... RAN STRAIGHT BACK... IT WAS ALL I COULD DO!!

HUF

HUF

SHK

HUC

PAT

IF HE'S LIMITED TO JUTSU TRAINING, HE CAN START AS EARLY AS TOMORROW.

BUT IT WOULDN'T HURT TO TAKE IT EASY FOR A WHILE.

HIS SURGERY WAS A SUCCESS.

SKF

LADY TSUNADE!! WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM BACK HERE!! ROCK LEE IS MISSING!!

TAK TAK

LEE...

.....

IT'S AMAZING. THIS WHOLE TIME YOU HARDLY LEFT HIS SIDE...

YET THE MOMENT WE TAKE OUR EYES OFF HIM, HE SLIPS AWAY.

OH DEAR... IT MUST HAVE BEEN LAST NIGHT, WHEN I WAS TREATING GENMA AND RAIDO...

SEE WHAT KIND OF A HURRY HE WAS IN...

HAH...

HE'S GONE CHASING OFF AFTER THEM.

THAT FOOL...

HE GRABBED MY *PRIVATE POTION* INSTEAD OF HIS MEDICINE BOTTLE...

!?

OH... NO...

!!?

PRIVATE POTION ?!

…!?

NOW WHAT'S WRONG?

GUY?!

……

TWITCH

フルフル

IF HE DRINKS EVEN ONE DROP OF YOUR PRIVATE POTION...

..TERRIBLE THINKS WILL HAPPEN!

TERRIBLE... THINGS?

……!?

KONOHA DAISENPU! KONOHA GREAT HURRICANE!!

WUP

FOOSH

FSSH

WUP

FOOM

SSSSSH

FSSH

FWOOM

SKFF

WIP

WOOSH

WIP

IT'S AMAZING... I CAN'T LAND A SINGLE KICK...

WSST

YOUR AGILITY SURPRISES ME... AND YOUR STYLE IS SINGULAR...

SHHK

READY?

SHF

YOUR MANNER IS FAR TOO. DIRECT.

!?

WIP

ONE MOMENT PLEASE!!

EXCUSE ME!

I'M SORRY, BUT IT'S TIME FOR MY MEDICINE!

YES?

I'VE NEVER BEEN MUCH OF ONE FOR MEDICINE, BUT...

SPOP

SHF

.....

GULP

NGUP

BLEH...

THIS IS THE WORST ONE YET...

!?

.....?

FWIW

YOU SEE... BACK WHEN LEE ACHIEVED THE REVERSE LOTUS, I BROUGHT HIM TO A RESTAURANT TO CELEBRATE.

AT ONE POINT, TAKING IT FOR WATER, LEE ACCIDENTALLY DOWNED A CUP OF ***SOMEONE ELSE'S PRIVATE POTION.*** AND THEN... THINGS GOT OUT OF HAND.

OUT OF HAND, YOU SAY?

賭

HIC

WHAT THE...

FWIW フラ…

WHEN HE CAME TO...

WHEN LEE DRANK THE POTION...

フラ… SLUMP

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

A DISAS-TER?

フラ… FWIW

THE PLACE WAS A DISASTER...

FWIW フラッ…

WHADDAYA LOOKIN' AT, YA JERK!?!

SHF

...HE WENT BERSERK!!

I'M SAYING HE'S A NATURAL-BORN USER...

WHAT IN... HEAVEN DID THAT BOY DRINK?

.....

WAIT WHAT?

FWIW

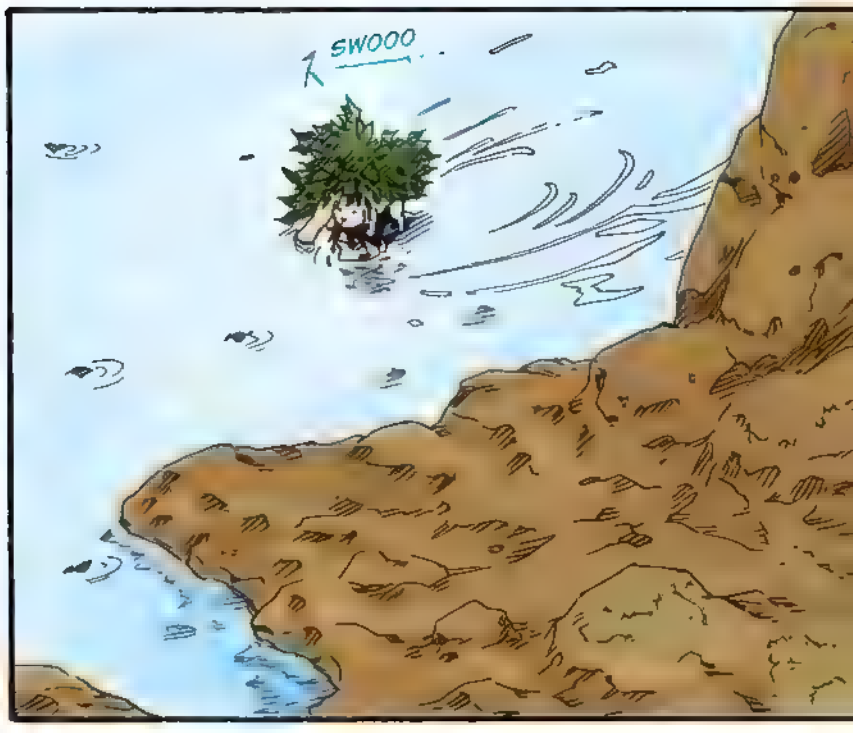
...OF THE POTION PUNCH!!

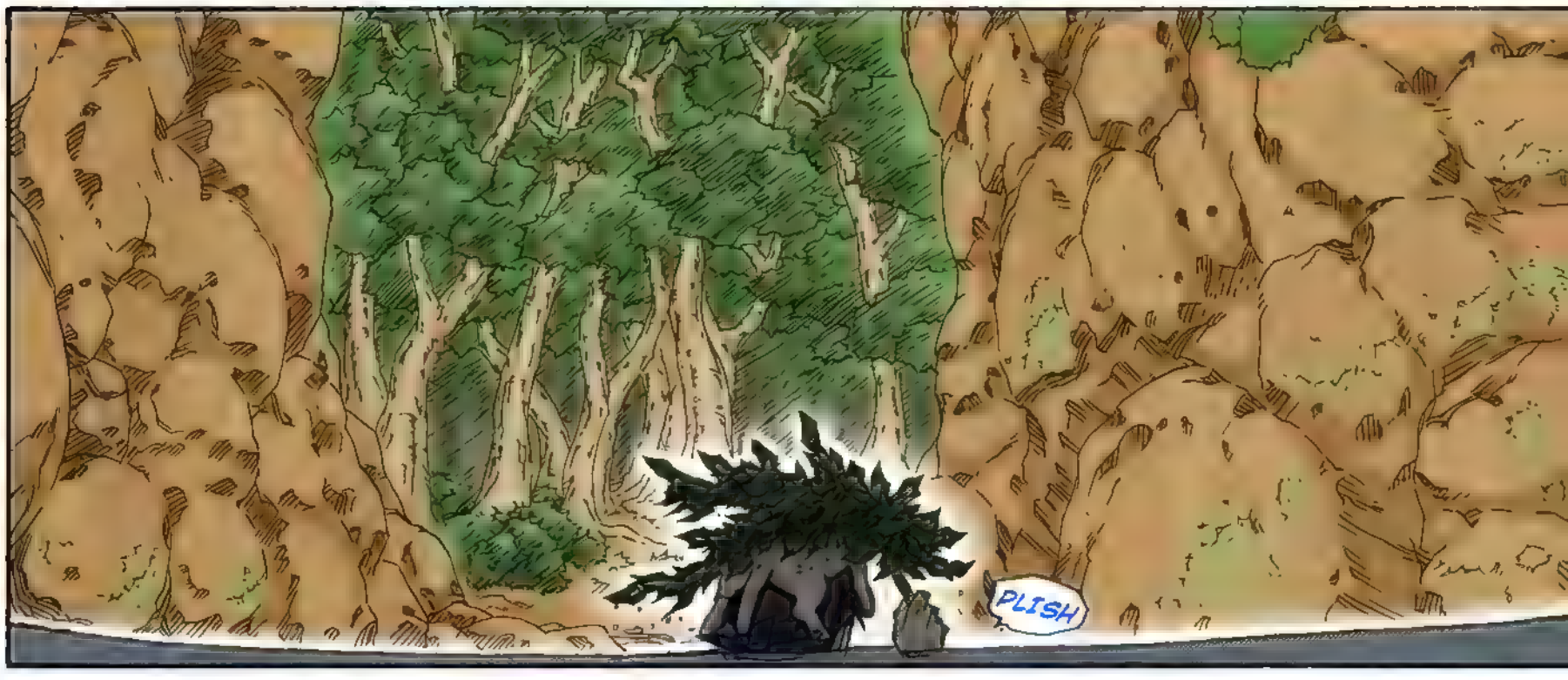
211: UNORTHODOX...!!

ナンバー　へんそくてき

211：変則的...!!

PEEK
キョロ
PEEK
キョロ


SWOOO


PLISH

HUF
HUF
HHHH...
FLOOSH
HUF
FUP
SPISH
HUF
HUF
TEP
TEP
THIS WOUND... GUESS I NEED TO KEEP IT DRY...
HUF
HUF
UGH...
PISH

FWIW

FWIW

UNH... *HIC*

FWIW

FWIW

SHAA

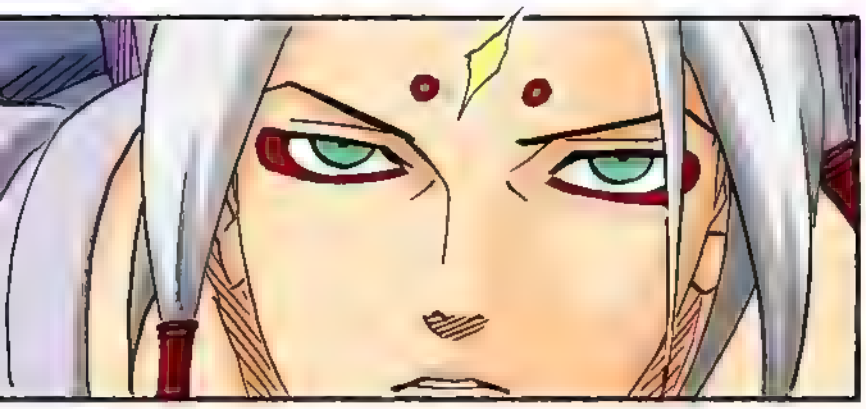
HYEER I COM-MAH!!

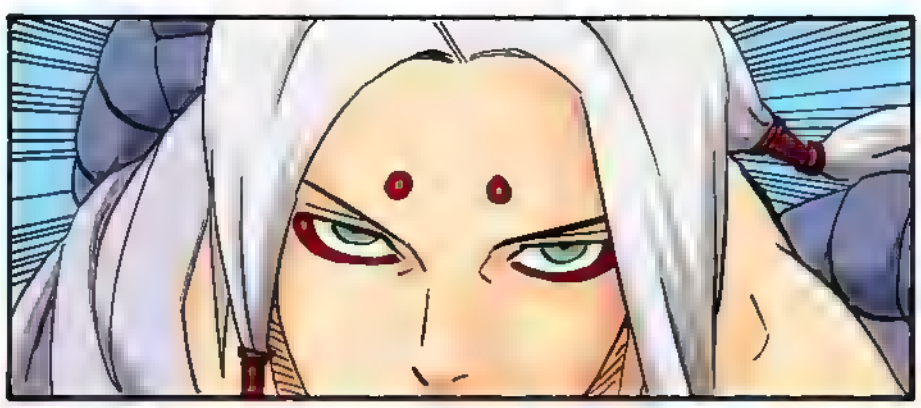
IT'S MADE THE BOY LOOPY!

PRIVATE POTION?

FWOOSH

HYAH!





WSSH

!

WIP

FOOM

ACHAH!!

PAK!

WSSH

!!

SNAG

A

TUK

SKSSH

KOOM

!

FWEE

FSSH

TWA

KAK

SHK

MORE OVER, TOO FAST!!

HE'S TOO HARD TO PREDICT...

SKSSH

TAK TAK TAK

WOOSH

SHF

TSUBAKI NO MAI! CAMELLIA DANCE!!

FOOM

SKSSH

SHOOM
SHOOM
SHOOM
SHOOM
WSH
WSH
WSH
WSH
WSH
WSH
FOOSH
TOUCHE!!
WHISH
!?
SWIP
KRIK

PAK

FASH

PAK

PAM

!

SWIP

SKISH

!!

SWIP

FSST

FWOSH

SHOVE

HA!

SHRUF

PAM

PAK

HWAAAA...

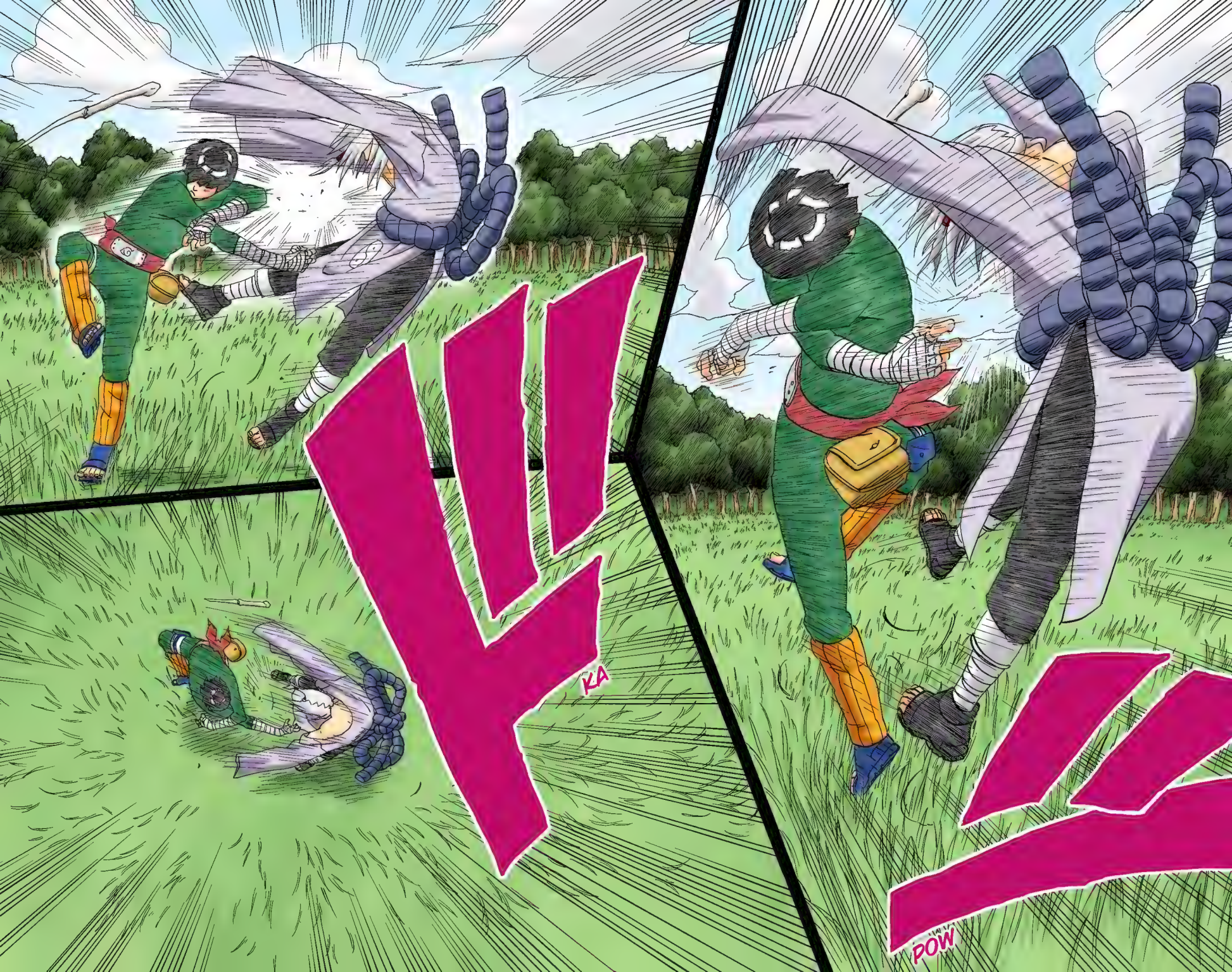
FLUMP

URK!

!

GWUM

WIP


KA
POW

SKRSSSH

HIC

FWIW

HE HIT ME... THAT TAIJUTSU IS SOMETHING ELSE.

I CAN'T READ HIS MOVES.

WHIP

SLUFF

ズズッ!
ZWURR

KRAK
ゴキ
KRAK
ゴキ
KRAK

I'M LEFT WITH NO CHOICE...

ズズ
ZWURR

KRAK SNAP

CRUNCH

KRAK
ゴキ
KRAK
ゴキ

SLURR

SHLIK

GWUR
ｱﾞ!!

GWUR
ｱﾞ!!

!?

SLURGE

MY ABILITIES STEM FROM MY BONES...

YOU WERE WARNED BY YOUR DOPPEL-GANGER FRIEND, NO?

SHAAA

...!

PA.

SHK

M

PAM

SHOOM

SHK

SWAKK

ZWU

!?

SUSH

RR

SKSSSH

NGAAH!!

!?

.....

THIS IS MY KEKKEI GENKAI.

SHAKKA

UNORTH-ODOX, AREN'T I?

212ナンバー：ピンチ・ピンチ・ピンチ!!

……!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE PULLED YOURSELF TOGETHER.

KEKKI GENKAI?!

……?

MY KEKKEI GENKAI GRANTS ME COMPLETE CONTROL OF MY OSTEOBLASTS AND OSTEOCLASTS.

WITH IT I REGULATE MY CALCIUM MASS, AND CONCEN-TRATE IT INTO BONES.

AND YET FOR ME THAT NUMBER IS NOT FIXED...

PWUP

THE HUMAN BODY IS COMPOSED OF JUST OVER TWO HUNDRED BONES.

SLURGE

SHLIK

TUP

HMPH...

SHFF

KARAMATSU NO MAI! LARCH DANCE!

PUP

PUP

PUP

PUP

SKIFF

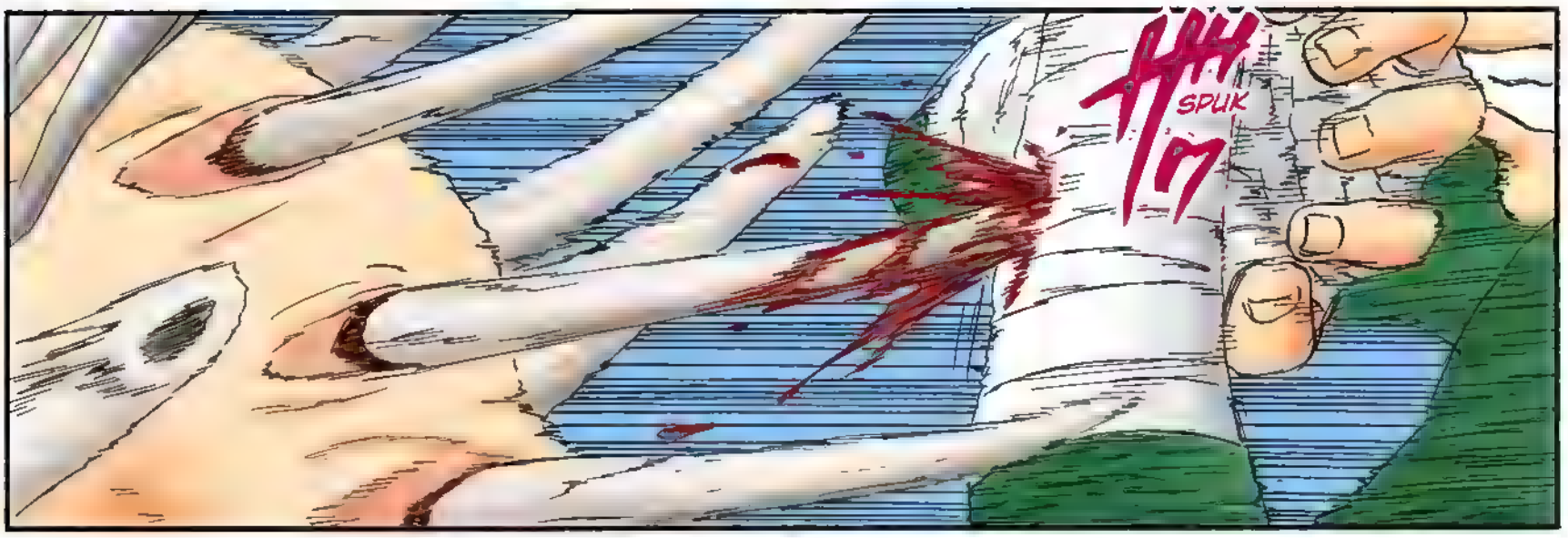
KA

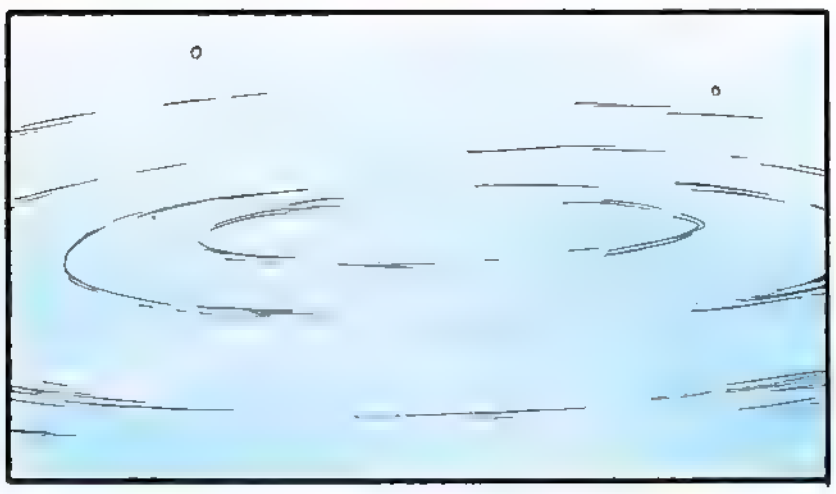
SHOOM

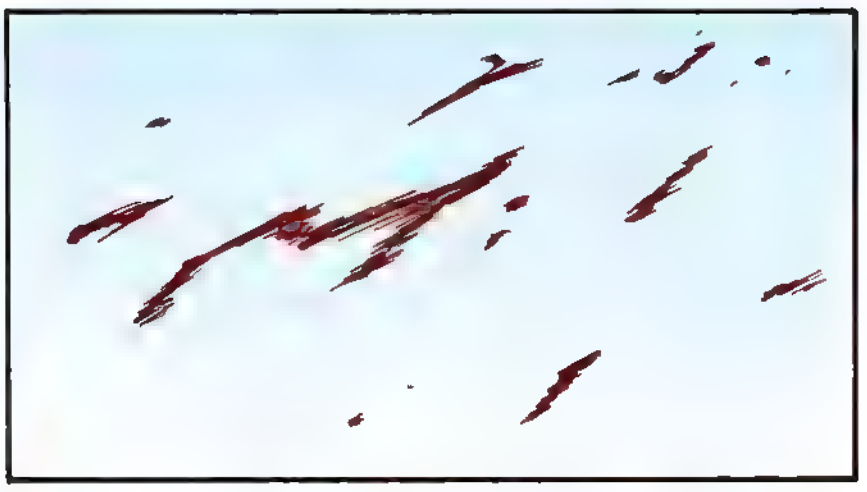
SHOOM

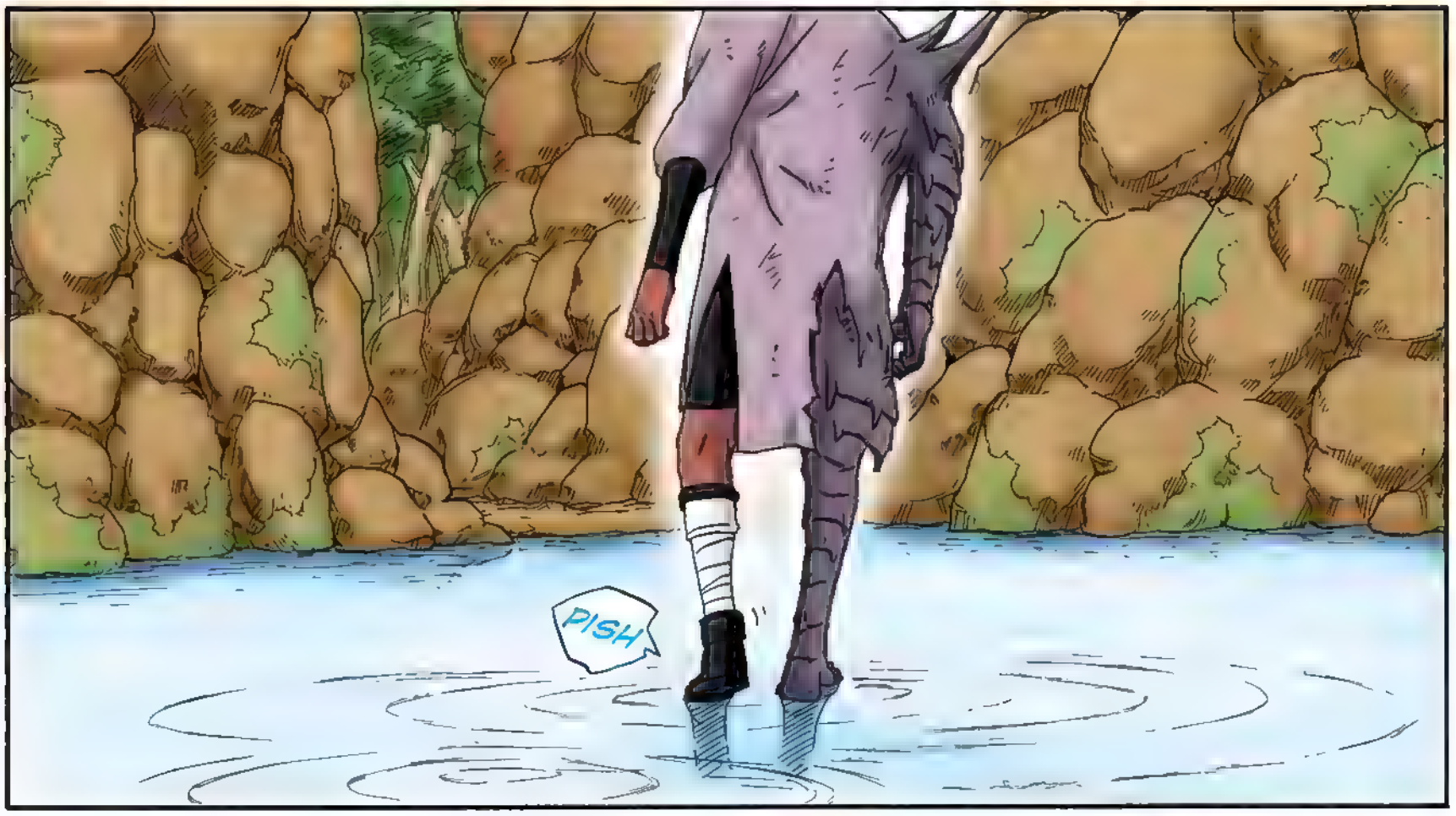
SHOOM

!

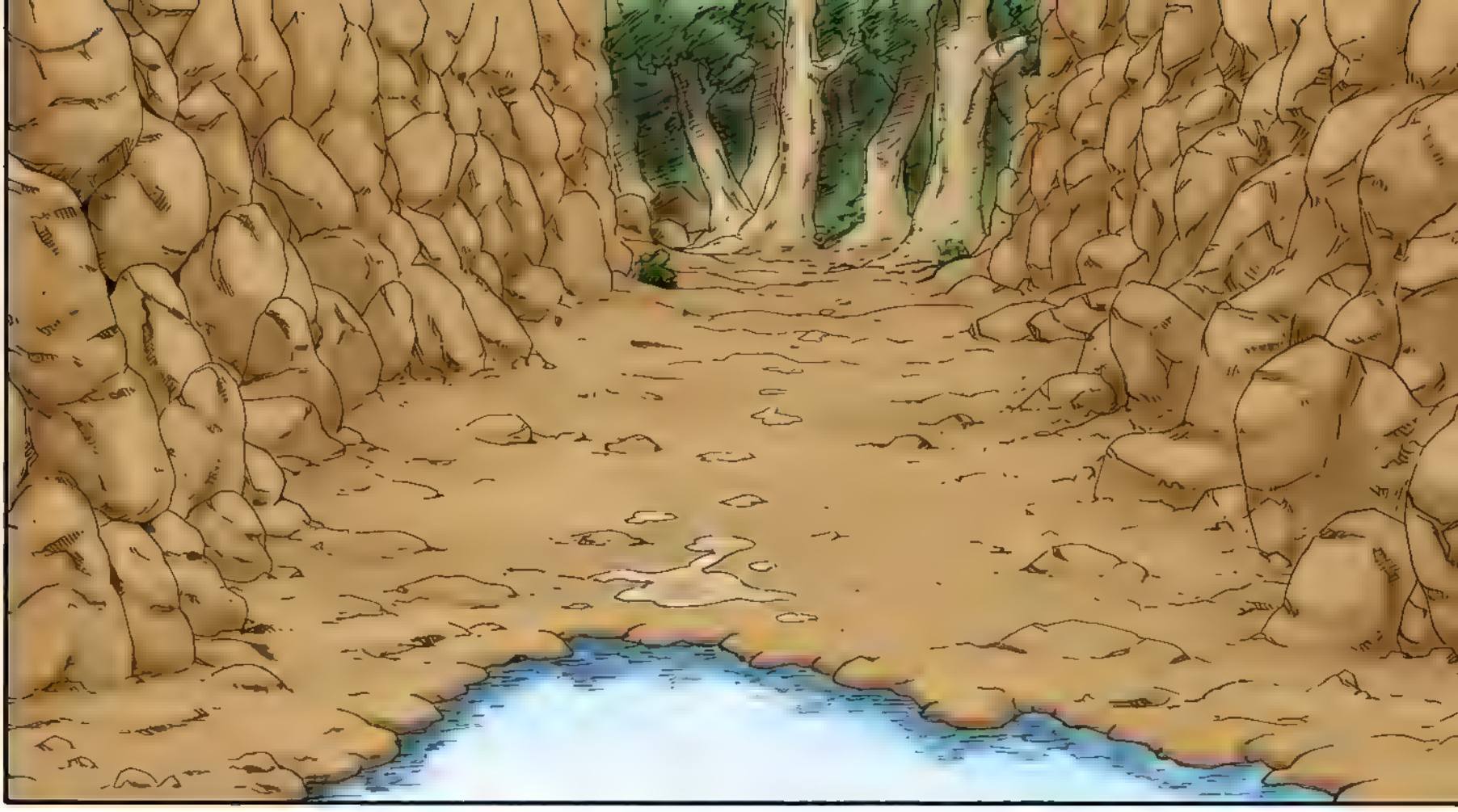

AHH
SPUK



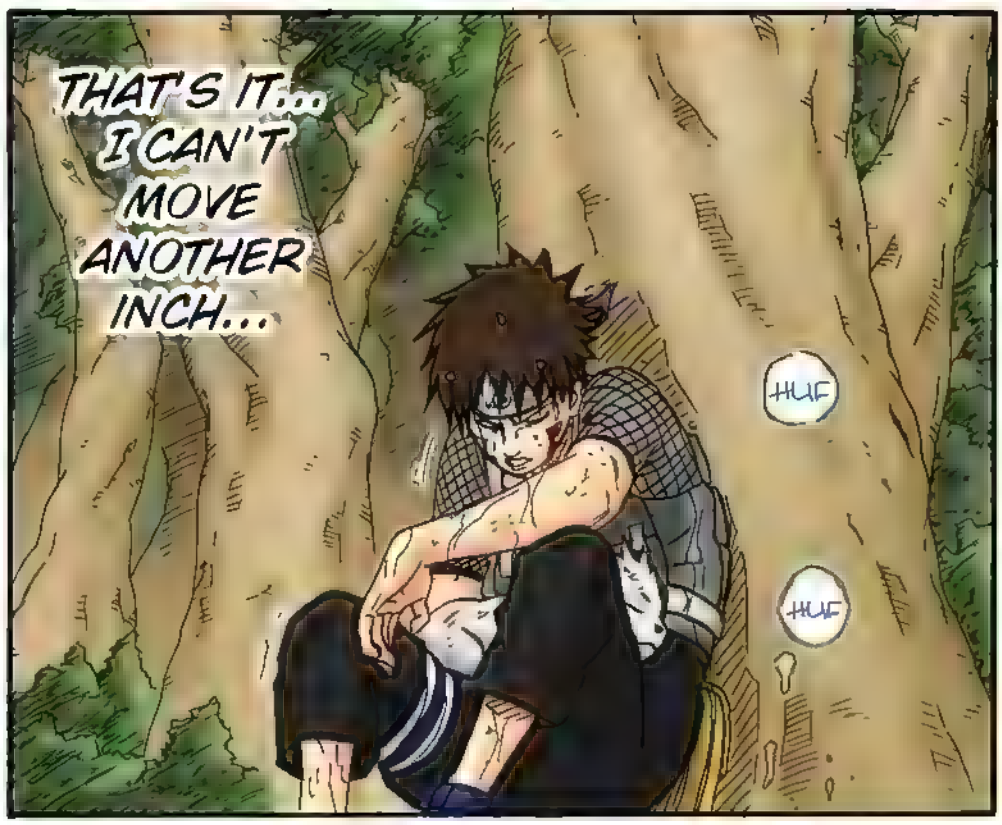


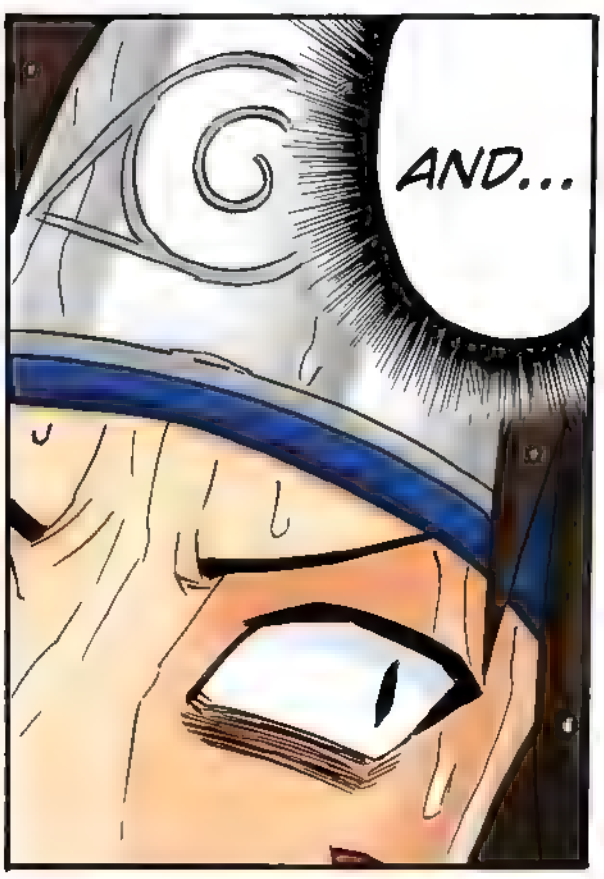

PISH

HE CAN'T HAVE WANDERED TO FAR.
HMPH. WITH THOSE WOUNDS ...

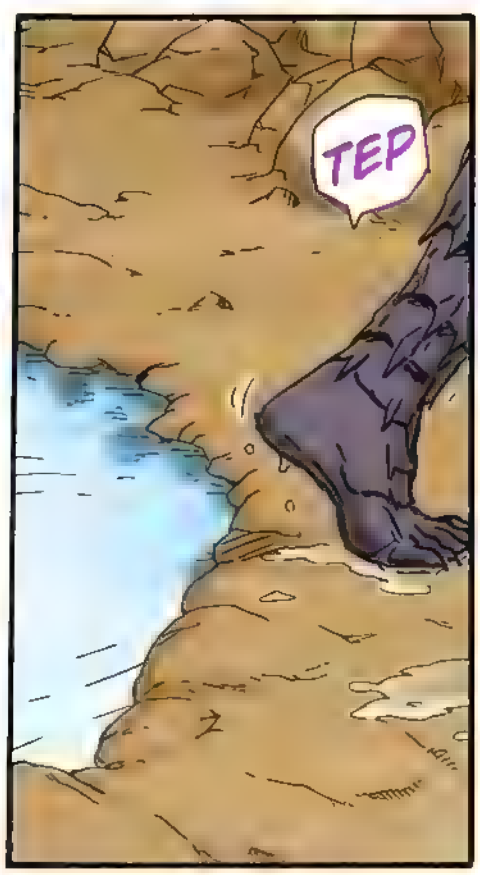


!!
SNUFF


THAT'S IT... I CAN'T MOVE ANOTHER INCH...
HUF
HUF


AND...

HE'S CAUGHT UP ALREADY?!
OH NO...


TEP

RATS... THIS KEEPS UP, I'LL RUN CLEAN OUT OF CHAKRA...

URRK...

GRRG...

THINK, SHIKAMARU. THINK! THERE'S GOTTA BE SOME WAY...

NEED SOME KIND STRATEGY HERE...

OKAY, CLAM DOWN.

ZWURR

ZWURR

HOOOOO

FOR SOME REASON... I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD...

.....

YOU STILL AWAKE?

HUF

HUF

WELL, ANYWAY... THIS IS WHERE THE REAL FIGHT BEGINS!

WOBBLE

BUT MAYBE I CAN OPEN ONE OF THE EIGHT INNER GATES, IF IT'S JUST THE FIRST ONE... JUST KAIMON, THE GATE OF OPENING.

I JUST GOT OUT OF SURGERY... SO I CAN'T GO TOO CRAZY...

FLIF

FLIF

SO I GUESS I SHOULD AVOID ANY MOVES BIG ENOUGH TO... WELL, KILL ME...

RIGHT NOW MY JOB IS TO HOLD HIM AS LONG AS I CAN.

TAK

TAK

TAK

TAK

.....

FOR-WARD LOTUS!!

SPAKK

!!?

BUT IT STOPS HERE.

IMPRES-SIVE SPEED...

HIS BONES ABSORBED THE IMPACT OF MY KICK?!

CLAMP

URK!

!!?

POP

SHNNG

TEP

TEP

TEP

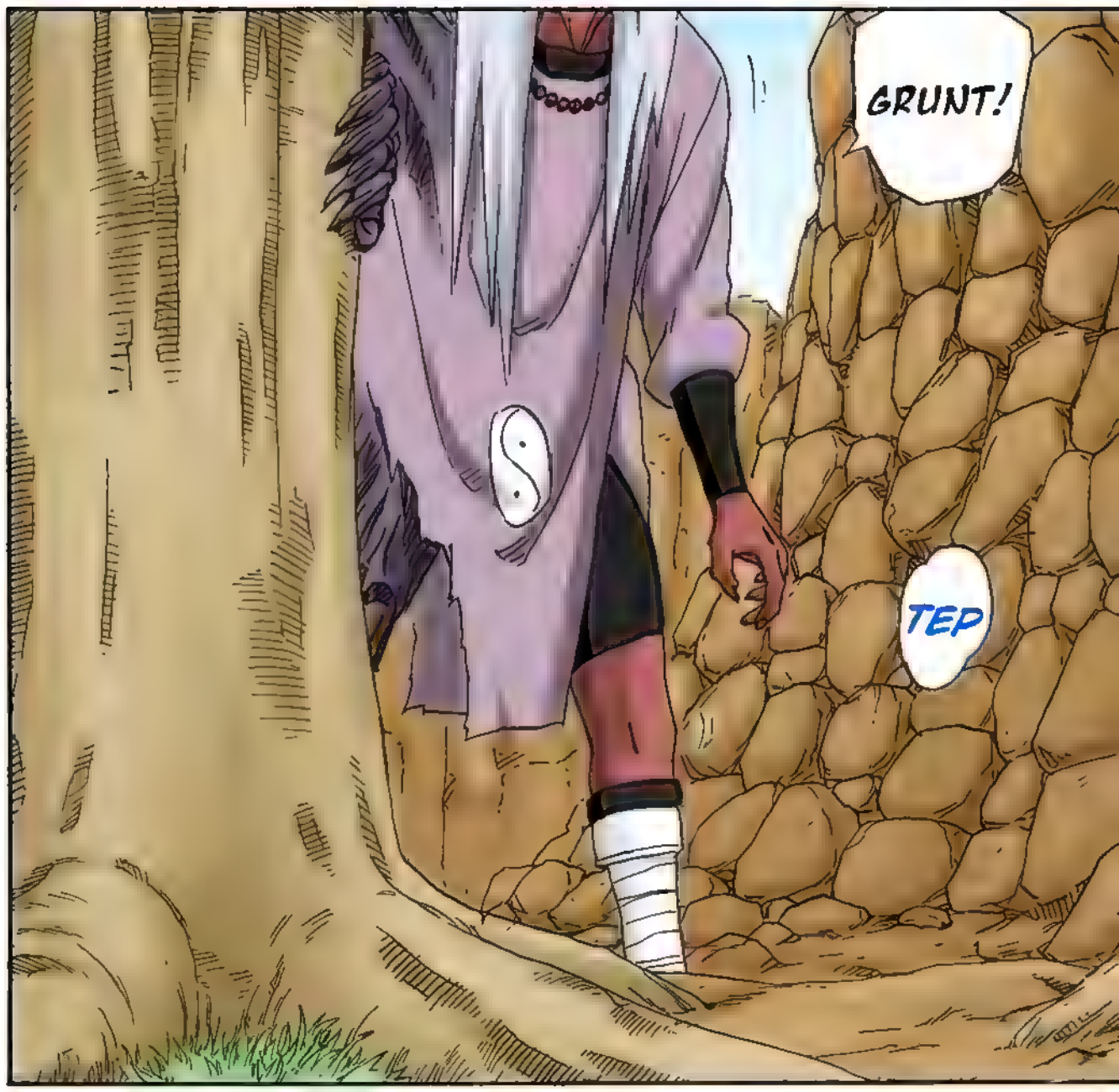
TEP

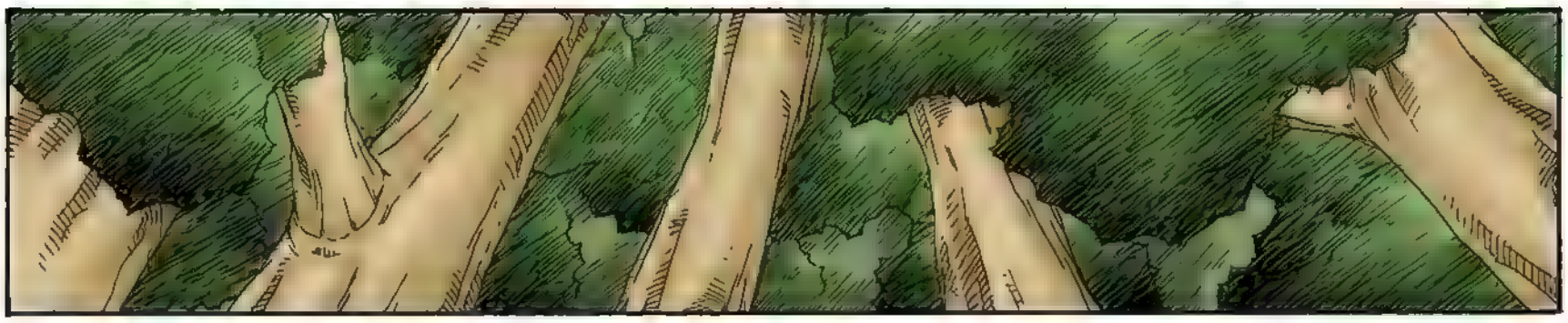
TEP

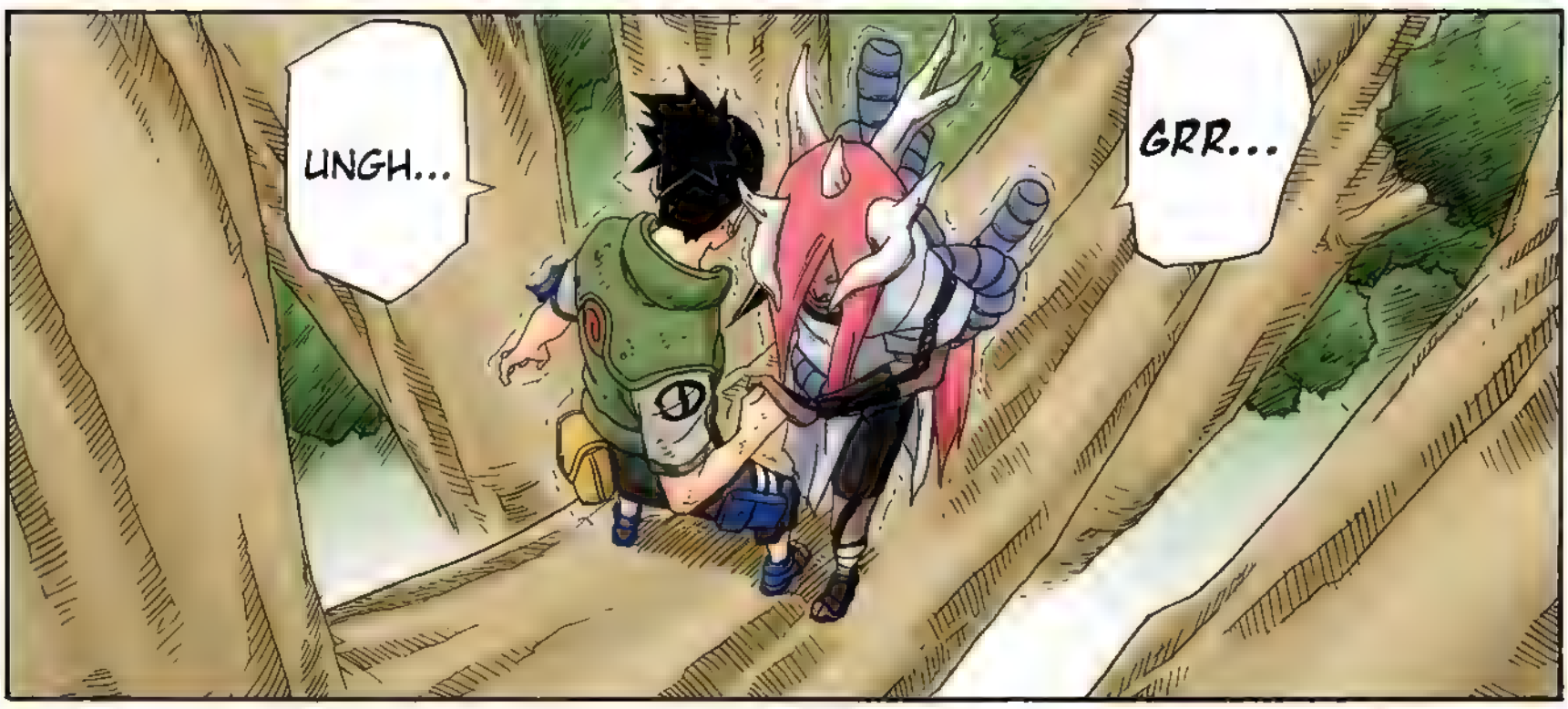
TEP

TEP

.....


GRUNT!
TEP




UNGH...
GRR...

THERE'S NO ONE COMING FOR ME. IT'S NOT LIKE THAT TIME WITH MASTER ASUMA...

I'M NEARLY DRAINED..

.....

JUST A LITTLE MORE... SCUMBAG!

GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF!

COME ON... WHERE'S THE GOOD IN HOPING FOR A MIRACLE?

PHEW. I'M...I'M SAFE.

HIS SCENT'S FADING..

.....

SNIFF

!!?

WHO'S SAFE?

WAIT. MY JACKET?!

!

I KNEW IT... HEH HEH.

IT'S HARD TO DETECT YOUR OWN SCENT, ISN'T IT. IT'S ALL TOO FAMILIAR.

SO THAT'S HOW YOU ERASED YOUR SCENT, HUH?

I'M IMPRESSED. YOU DO KNOW HOW ODOR WORKS.

LITTLE WONDER I COULDN'T PLACE YOU.

I'M STANDING BEFORE YOU. DON'T YOU THINK NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO BEG FOR YOUR LIFE?

HUH?!

SHFF

WSSH

SHF

SNIK

AW, RATS.

AND THEN... THERE'S THE WAY YOU SPLIT UP TO HUNT THAT DID A NUMBER ON US.

THOK

WIPE THAT SMIRK OFF YOUR FACE!

TWIK

SHRUFF

FOOSH

NOW DIE!!

THAT'S IT, THEN. I'M DONE FOR.

CRUD... I CAN'T THINK OF A SINGLE WAY OUT OF THIS.

GRR

!!?

GWE

GAH!

EN

!!

SKF

!!?

WHO THE...

URK!

SKOK

SKOK

!?

SHK

LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT AN ALLY.

!

WHAT THE...

SPAP

AND YOU ARE...?

ボク…

BLOOF

WHOA!

!?

PAWOOF

...
NINJA.
KLANG
THE SAND...
TEP
ALLIES OF KONOHA.

ナンバー 213：大(おお)きな借(か)り…!!

CHAPTER 213: DEBT...!!

CHAPTER 213:
DEBT...!!
ナンバー
213：
大(おお)きな借(か)り…!!

NARUTO
-ナルト-

SHK
SHK

SO YOU ARE HE.

SHP

GAARA.

KRAK

KRAK

GAARA OF THE SAND...

SHK

AM I STILL LOOPY?

SAND?!

SHK SHK

十指穿弾!!

テシセンダン

FSSH

FSSH

TESHI-SENDAN! DIGITAL SHRAPNEL!!

SHOOM

SHOOM

POFF
POFF
POFF
POFF
POFF
POFF
POFF

.....

PLIK

キュルルル
WEEN

PFUP

YOU'RE IMPA-TIENT.

DID HE JUST FIRE THE BONES FROM HIS FINGERTIPS?!

!

WHEN LAST WE FOUGHT...

YOU WERE FASTER AND SHARPER THAN THIS.

.....

WUP

THANKS FOR REMINDING ME.

.....

NOT THAT I HOLD A GRUDGE...

愛

BUT YOU REALLY DID A NUMBER ON ME.

SSS

I SEE...

.....

ANYWAY. WHY ARE YOU HERE?

.....

...A GREAT DEBT.

I OWE KONOHA ...

I HEARD WE MADE UP WITH THE TRAITORS FROM THE LAND OF SAND.

BUT I DIDN'T THINK YOU GUYS WOULD FLIP SIDES THIS FAST.

IT'S NOT LIKE WE WANTED TO RAID KONOHA.

IT WAS JUST ORDERS.

THE SAME WAY I WAS ORDERED HERE.

BY THE WAY...

ARE YOU GETTING DUMBER BY THE MINUTE?

.....

AHA... SO THE FIFTH HOKAGE SENT FOR HELP.

!

THANK GOOD-NESS.

I CAN TAKE CARE OF HER, YOU KNOW.

SO YOU WANNA PULL OUT AGAIN?

LOOK, YOU FOOL, YOU DON'T HAVE TO POSE FOR ME. I CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH YOU!

HMPH. STILL TALKING ABOUT MEN THIS, WOMEN THAT.

A MAN CAN'T HAVE A WOMAN DEFENDING HIM.

SORRY, BUT... I CAN'T LET YOU.

THAT FLUTE, IT'S HOW SHE WIELDS GENJUTSU.

DUH!

YOU GUYS SURE KEEP BUSY, SWITCHING SIDES ALL THE TIME!

SO NOW YOU'RE WITH KONOHA?!

DAI-
KAMAITACHI
NO JUTSU!
CYCLONE
SCYTHE
TECHNIQUE!!

大カマイタチの術(だいかまいたちのじゅつ)!!

SWOOSH

SLISH

KW

!!

UU

OFFENSE AND DEFENSE IN ONE MOVE.

SHE DOES HAVE SOME IMPRESSIVE JUTSU.

IT'S NOT JUST BLASTING AWAY THE FLUTE SOUNDS... IT'S ALSO PHYSICALLY DAMAGING THE OPPONENT.

THIS WENCH IS GOING TO BE A PAIN IN THE NECK!!

...YOU BETTER HAVE CAUGHT HIM

AS WE PLANNED, UKON...

.....

.....

.....

FSSH

SHOOM

!!

KRRT

YOU GUYS NEED ALL THE HELP YOU CAN GET.

THE OTHERS WENT AHEAD.

HEY, WEREN'T THERE THREE OF YOU?

A GOLEM, HUH.

スッ

SHF

!

TWIK

YOU MORON! THESE CREEPS AREN'T JUST YOU AVERAGE...

!!!

FWOOP

!

BEHIND YOU!!

SPA

WHO IS THIS GUY?!

NUTS.

!

I...I CAN'T MOVE!!

SAKON, I'M LEAVING THEM IN YOUR HANDS.

FINISH THIS!

PLAP

MMPF

WATCH OUT! HE'S GONNA ENTER YOUR BODY AND FUSE WITH YOU!!

THAT POSITION...

!!

SHUP

TOO LATE NOW...

!!?

YIKES...

YOU!!

ニヤ

SMIRK

SAKON?! WHAT IS IT?!

TAK

!?

SHUFF

SHUFF

SHUFF

SSSSS

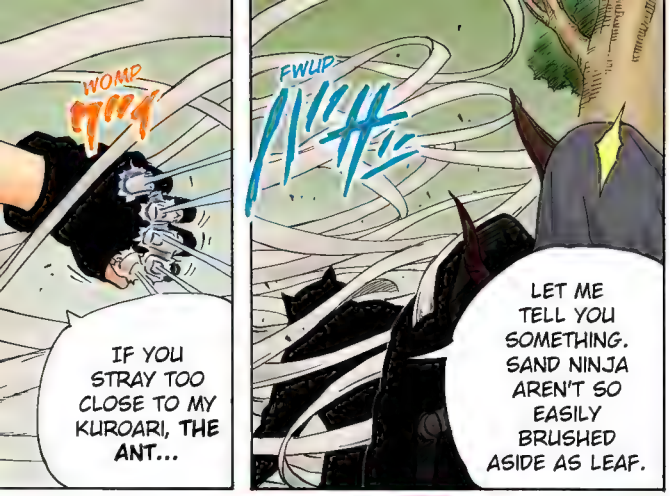
PLIK

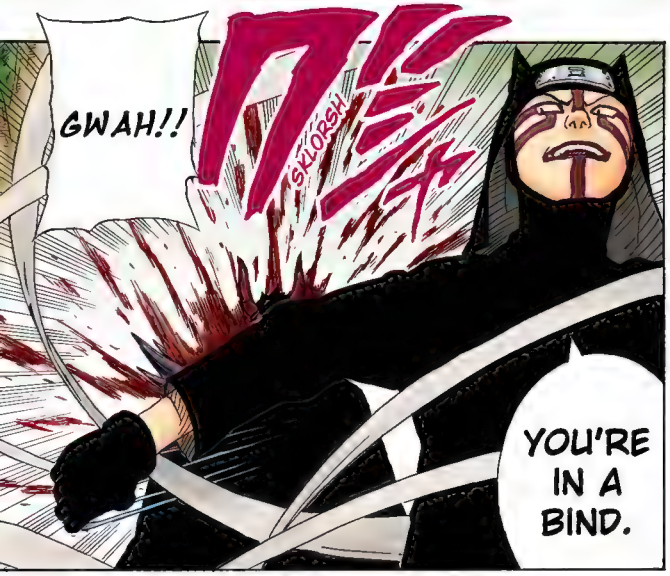
PLIK

!!?

!?

!?

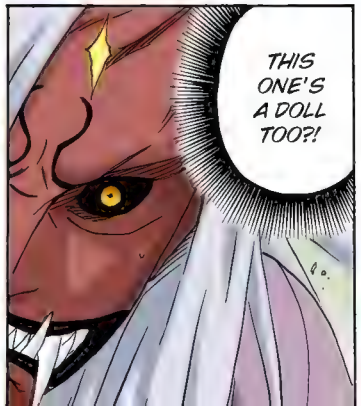

WOMP
IF YOU STRAY TOO CLOSE TO MY KUROARI, THE ANT...
FWUP
LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING. SAND NINJA AREN'T SO EASILY BRUSHED ASIDE AS LEAF.


GWAH!!
SKLORSH
YOU'RE IN A BIND.

BUT NOW THAT HE'S WITH ME, I SURE AS HECK CAN COUNT ON HIM.
HE WAS A TERRIBLE ENEMY...

MMF
!!

!?


THIS ONE'S A DOLL TOO?!

THIS JUTSU OF YOURS... GUESS IT DOESN'T WORK ON A DOLL.
SHRIP

THE WORLD OF KISHIMOTO MASASHI
PERSONAL HISTORY:
THE TOO-EMBARRASSING-TO-WRITE-ABOUT STORY, PART 3

THE MORE I ADD TO THIS PERSONAL HISTORY, THE MORE MISERY I RELIVE FROM MY EMBARRASSING PAST. I ASK MYSELF WHETHER I ONLY DREDGE UP ALL THESE STUPID MEMORIES OUT OF A COMPULSION TO FILL IN THE PAGES BETWEEN CHAPTERS. YET STILL I PERSIST. WELL, AT LEAST YOU CAN NEVER SAY I HELD BACK ON YOU AS AN ENTERTAINER.

THE THINGS I'M ABOUT TO DISCLOSE MY GET A LITTLE INTENSE FOR SOME READERS. STILL, HERE WE GO.

THIS INCIDENT IS WEDGED IN MY BRAIN... IT WAS BACK IN KINDERGARTEN, THE DAY OF THE "POTATO DIGGING TOURNAMENT." THAT AUTUMN, THAT DAY, IN THE MIDST OF HARVESTING SEASON, JUST FOR THAT EVENT, OUT SCHOOL INVITED OUR FAMILIES TO JOIN US. KIDS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, ALL OF US GOT TOGETHER TO HARVEST THE SWEET POTATOES WE'D PLANTED AT A NEARBY FARM. IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, YOU SEE, KINDERGARTENS HOLD THESE HEARTWARMING COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS, INTENDED TO BRING KIDS, PARENTS, AND TEACHERS CLOSER TOGETHER.

I WAS DIGGING AWAY IN HIGH SPIRITS, TELLING MYSELF "I'LL FIND THE BIGGEST POTATO OF ALL, AND SURPRISE EVERY-BODY!" AND THEN THERE IS WAS, A MONOLITH AMONGEST POTATOES. IN MYY DELIGHT, I STARTED DIGGING LIKE A STARVING MAN. MIND YOU, FOR ALL MY HASTE I WAS CAREFUL NOT TO BREAK THE ROOT. AND THEN THERE I WAS, CLUTCHING A GIANT POTATO.

IN UNISON, EVERYBODY SCREAMED: "WOW!!" AND "THAT'S HUGE!" AND SO ON. I WAS IN ANOTHER WORLD. SO THEN... I DON'T KNOW WHY I DID THIS, BUT I STARTED RUNNING AND ROLLING AROUND THE FIELD, GRASPING MY PRECIOUS POTATO. THEN THE THOUGHT HIT ME: "I GOTTA SHOW MOM THIS POTATO!" SO I GLANCED AROUND FOR HER AND REAL-IZED SHE WASN'T THERE. SHE WAS ACTUALLY DOWN AT MY TWIN BROTHER'S PLOT. SEE, THE FARM WAS TERRACED, AND HIS PLOT WAS IN A FIELD BELOW. SO I PELTED STRAIGHT TOWARD HER, SPRINTING FROM FIELD TO FIELD, HOPPINGZ DOWN THE TERRACES AND EVERYTHING.

AND THAT'S WHEN IT HAPPENED. I WAS IN SUCH A HURRY I WASN'T LOOKING, BUT IN THE LOWER FIELD, IN THE FIVE SQUARE METER AREA WHERE I WAS DUE TO LAND, WAS A HEAPING PILE OF A TYPICAL RURAL ARTIFACT...

AS YOU MAY HAVE SURMISED, IT WAS, YES, A MOUNTAIN OF
COW MANURE!

--TO BE CONTINUED--

ナンバー

214・・・いったん退(ひ)いて・・・!!

CHAPTER 214: ...RETREAT...!!

FWHUMP

WOMP

KAIK

SHAA

KNK

FOOSH

!

ZWUR

ZWUR

ZWURR

!?

SLUR

SHK

!

HERE, LEMME REST A BIT.

SLURGE ズリュ

I LET MY GUARD DOWN.

OWW...

SHRIEK

SLUR

SLURRR

YOU'RE PATHETIC.

WHAT'S WITH THEM?

THAT'S THEIR POWER.

HE MAY HAVE CAUGHT YOU OFF GUARD...

ZWURR

BUT STILL, YOU CONCEDE DEFEAT TO SOME STUPID PUPPET?!

.....

ZWURR

.....

LOOK... HE'S NOT THAT STRONG, HE'S NOT THAT FAST...

THAT TOY'S NOT ENOUGH TO TAKE US DOWN.

HEH. MY STOMACH WOUND'S HEALED OVER.

I AM RUNNING LOW ON CHAKRA...

BUT I'VE GOT ENOUGH TO SHRED THESE TWO.

IT'S FREAKIN' HARD TO MOVE IN THIS THING.

I'M NOT USUALLY THE ONE TO TAKE ON THE MAIN BODY

TAP TAP

HMPH.

HOW FAST HE RECOVERS...!

LOOKS LIKE HIS WOUNDS HAVE HEALED.

WE SHOULD RETREAT FOR NOW...

YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM FIGHTING HEAD-ON!

YOU GUYS TAKE ME FOR A FOOL?

!

TUG

TUG

AND LET THEM THINK ME A COWARD?

WHAT, BACK DOWN NOW?

TUG

SH

AA

!!

!

SHKK

SHOOM

SHOOM

SHOOM

BA

SHOOM

SHOOM

SHOOM

WHOA!!

URK!!

!?

I USUALLY USE THE ANT'S COUNTERPART, THE CROW, FOR THIS ATTACK.

TUG

THE ANT IS NOT AN OFFENSIVE PUPPET.

IT WAS ORIGINALLY DESIGNED FOR CAPTURING PREY.

SPA

KK

YEEG!

K'SHAK

K'SHAK

K'SHAK

BAM

LET ME OUTTA HERE!!

...MY VERY OWN PUPPET SHOW!

I GIVE YOU...

黒秘技機々一発!!

WO

MP

THE ART OF THE IRON MAIDEN!

CHUFF

GLIK

SHLUK

SHOOM

GUH GUAAAH!!!

CHUFF

SHLUK

CHURK

.....

DRIP

.....

.....

FINIS.

WITH HER TAIL BETWEEN HER LEGS?

SHE'S RUN OFF...

BRIEF ME...

UPDATE ME ON OUR TACTICAL SITUATION.

……!?

I JUST GOT HERE.

THAT'S NOT HER WAY. SHE'S AROUND.

NO...

THAT, AND IT'S TWO AGAINST ONE. SHE WON'T SHOW HERSELF UNTIL SHE CASTS HER GENJUTSU ON US.

I'M GUESSING SHE SAW IMMEDIATELY HOW POORLY HER JUTSU MEASURED UP TO YOURS.

BASICALLY, SHE'S YOUR TYPICAL GENJUTSU-STYLE LONG-RANGE FIGHTER.

WELL...FIRST, HER BASIC APPROACH IS TO SPELLBIND HER ENEMIES WITH THE SOUND OF HER FLUTE...

THEN WHILE THEY'RE UNDER THE SPELL, SHE JUMPS THEM.

THEY ACT UPON AND BEWITCH YOU SIGHT, YOUR HEARING...

...YOUR SMELL, TASTE, AND TOUCH.

YEAH.

SEE, MOST GENJUTSU WORK ON THE FIVE SENSES.

SOUND... HUH?

WE'VE NO IDEA WHEN OR WHERE SHE'LL UNLOAD IT ON US.

NOT ONLY CAN SHE KEEP HER DISTANCE, BUT STAY AS CLOAKED AS SHE PLEASES.

THE ONES BASED ON HEARING ARE THE MOST PROBLEMATIC.

AWWG...

.....

WE'RE ALREADY UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HER GENJUTSU.

SNAP

BY THE TIME WE PINPOINT HER FROM THE SOUND...

WE SHOULD RETREAT FOR NOW, AND...

IF WE STAY HERE, SOONER OR LATER WE'LL BE CORNERED.

DID ANYONE ASK YOU FOR ADVICE?

I ASKED YOU THE SITUATION. THAT'S ALL.

FACING SOMEONE LIKE HER IS FOOLISH WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF GUYS LIKE KIBA OR NEJI... SOMEONE WITH KEEN DETECTION.

WE'RE IN A HEAP OF TROUBLE, IF YOU ASK ME.

THROB THROB

SHE'S IN FOR A DOOZY.

IF SHE THINKS SHE'S SAFE...

SKLITCH

CAMPED OUT JUST INSIDE THE RANGE OF HEARING...

...!?

CHIP

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME.

KUCHIYOSE! SUMMONING!

FWOSH

口寄せ…… (くちよ)

BONG

斬り斬り舞(まい)!!

SLASH!!

KIRIKIRI MAI!
BLADE DANCE!

WHAT?

!

SLISH

ALL RIGHT, FAR ENOUGH. LET THE GENJUTSU BEGIN...

CHOK

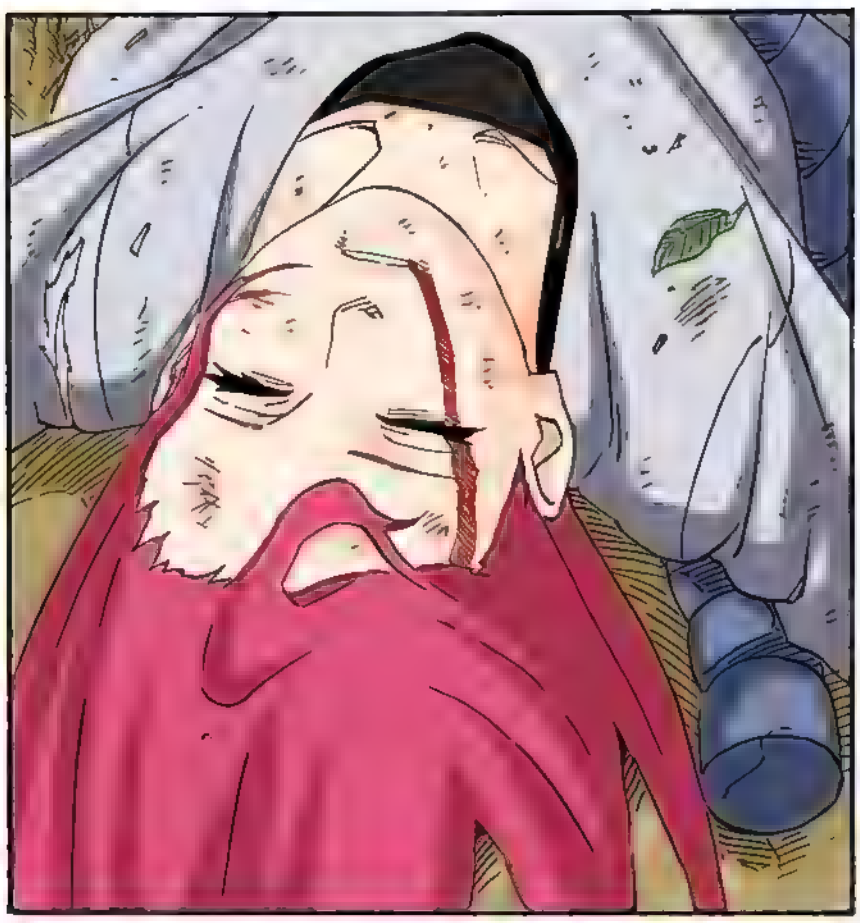
CHOK

!!?

!

.....

……



AND SCARIER THAN MY MOM...

SUBTLE AS A RHINO...

.....

ALL OVER.

SEE?

WHAT D'YA THINK?

TEE

HEE

BUT, WELL... I GUESS THIS TIME I GOTTA BE GRATEFUL.

.....

THE WORLD OF KISHIMOTO MASASHI
PERSONAL HISTORY:
THE TOO-EMBARRASSING-TO-WRITE-ABOUT STORY, PART 4

THE IMAGE OF THAT SCENE IS ACID-ETCHED INTO MY MIND. I REMEMBER MY THOUGHTS, HOVERING THERE IN MIDAIR. WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I LOST MY BALANCE? OH NO. DON'T LET ME FALL DOWN. THAT'S IT, FORGET THE LEGS. IF I JUST LAND WITH MY UPPER BODY STRAIGHT, LIKE A GYMNAST...

ANYWAY, NEVER MIND THE POTATO. I TOSSED IT ASIDE. **SQUELCH**. IT HIT THE MOUND FIRST. HEARING THAT SOUND GAVE ME THE RESOLVE I NEEDED. **SQUISH SMUSSH!** BOTH MY LEGS, PLANTED IN THE DUNG! IT WAS DEEPER THAN I HAD ENVISIONED. BUT ACTUALLY, THAT WAS A GODSEND. CEMENTED KNEE-DEEP, I MANAGED TO MAINTAIN MY BALANCE.

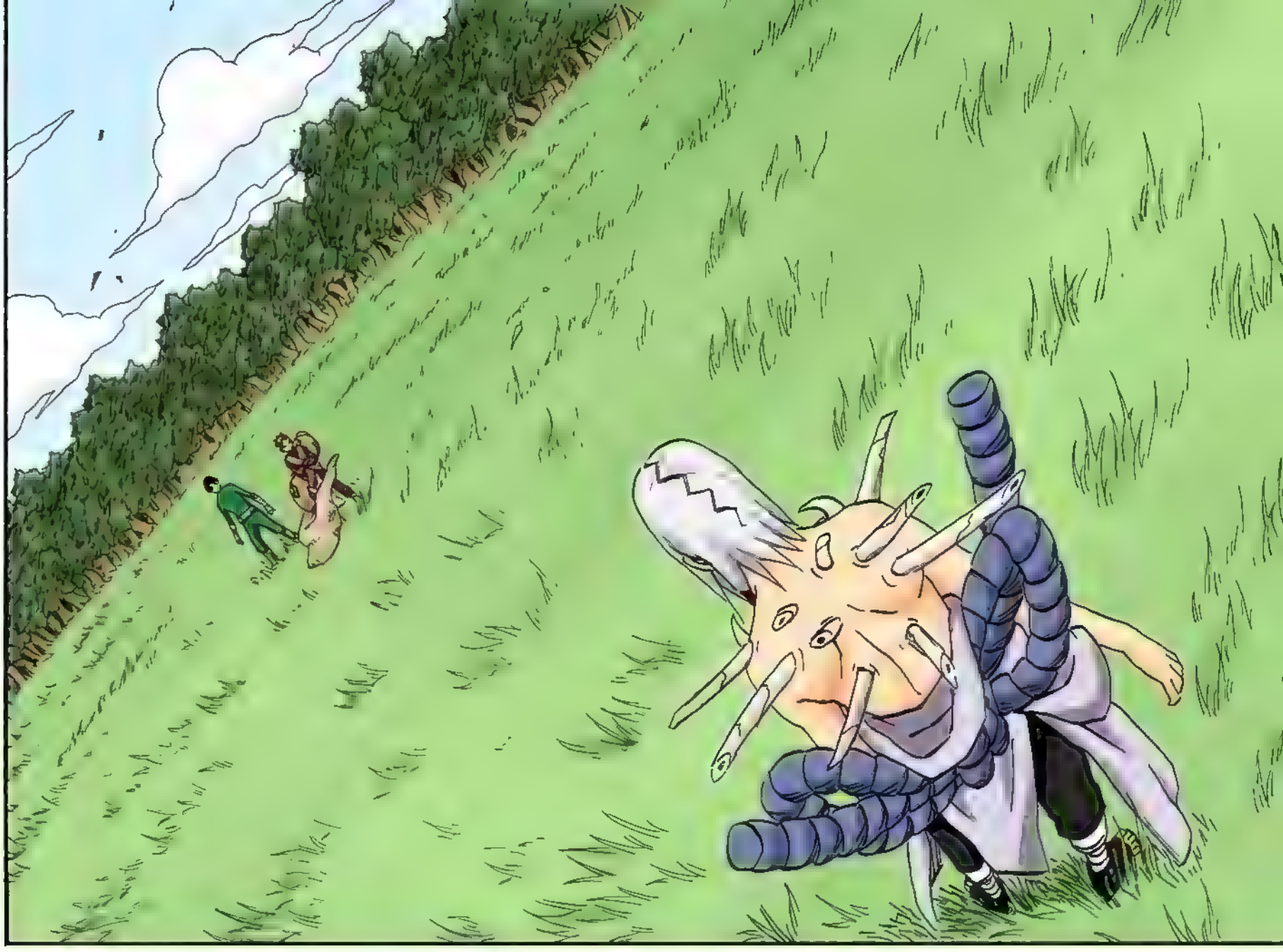
INSTEAD OF SURPRISING EVERYBODY WITH MY PRIZE POTATO, I WOUND UP STIRRING THEM IN A DIFFERENT WAY.

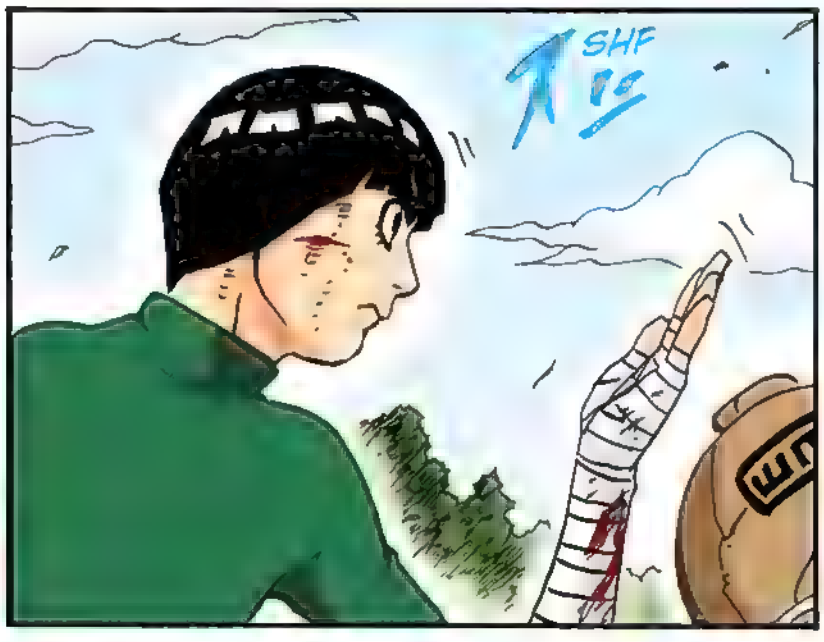
AND THEN CAME THE MISERY. I CALLED TO A NEARBY CLASSMATE FOR HELP. HE RAN TO THE NEAREST TEACHER, SCREAMING FULL BLAST: "MASASHI'S BURIED IN POO!" I'LL NEVER FORGET WHAT HAPPENED NEXT... THE TEACHER REFUSED TO HELP ME. I GUESS SHE WAS AVERSE TO RURAL ARTIFACTS. TO MY RELIEF AND HER CREDIT, MY MOTHER THEN CAME TO THE RESCUE, LIFTING ME OUT OF MY PREDICAMENT WITHOUT HESITATION. IN THE MOMENT I LEARNED AWE FOR THE LOVE OF A MOTHER.

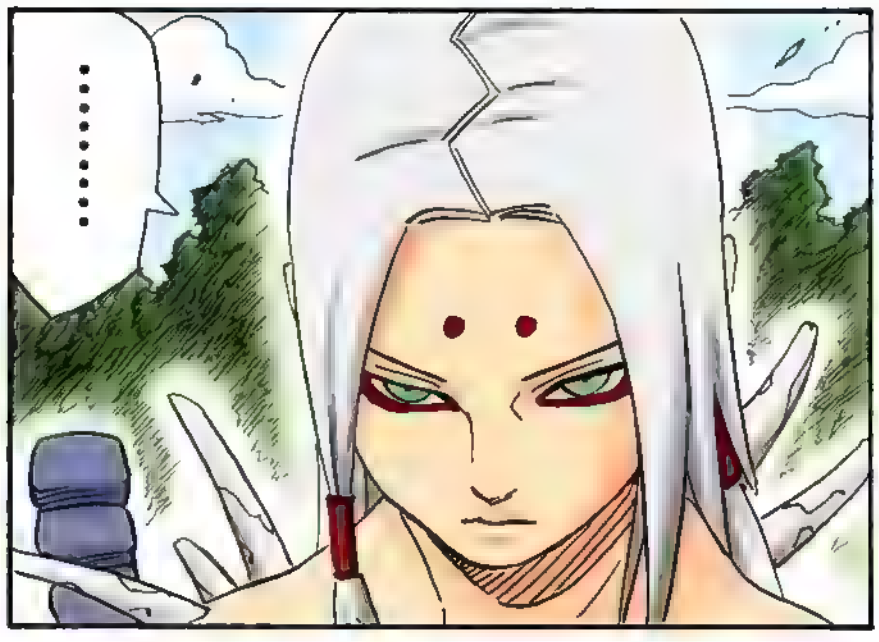
TO THIS DAY WHEN A YAM CROSSES MY PATH, IT BRINGS ME BACK TO THAT EVENT. AND NOW THE MORAL (IN TWO PARTS): NO GOOD EVER COMES FROM BEING CAUGHT UP WITH THINGS; AND WHEN IT COMES TO IT, MOTHERS ARE BRAVE!

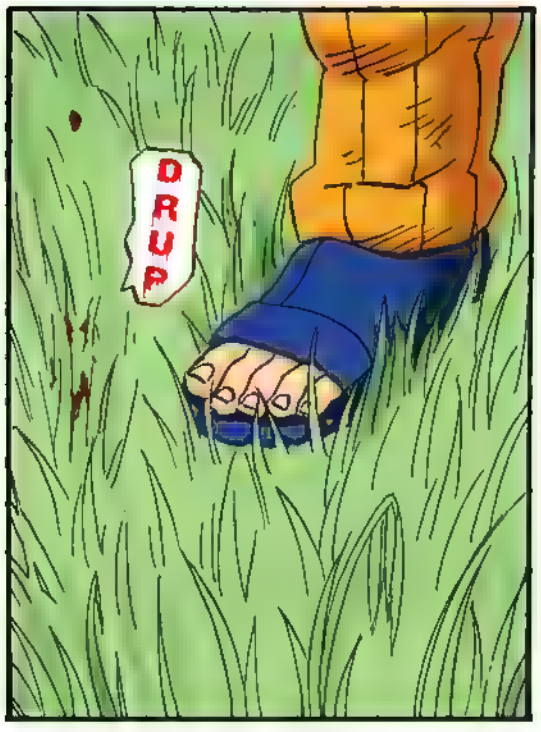
215: GAARA OF THE SAND

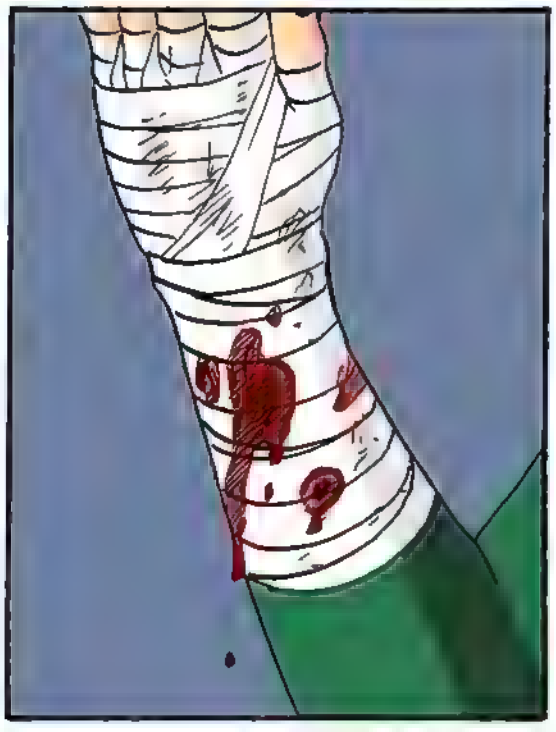
215：砂瀑の我愛羅

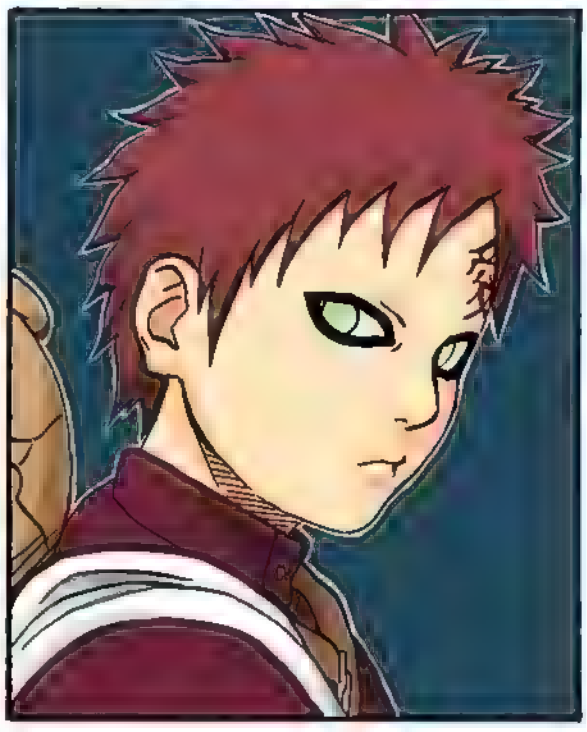



SHF
TE




DRUP





愛

I'LL HANDLE THIS.

!

NO!

PLEASE, BACK ME UP INSTEAD!

SHK

.....

KWAH

FSSH

.....

SHK

ARGH!!

.....

FLOMP

SWUP

SHK

SHK

YOU'RE IN NO SHAPE TO FIGHT.

!!

UNH

THROB

OH C'MON, LET GO!

WIP

TUG TUG

SSS

I'LL HANDLE THIS.

SHK

SHK

!

LIKE YOU SAW, HE FIRES THEM OR JUTS THEM OUT OF HIS BODY.

IT'S AS AMAZING AS IT IS DISTURBING!!

HE ATTACKS WITH HIS BONES!

SO AS THE NAME SUGGESTS, YOU ARE *OF THE SAND.*

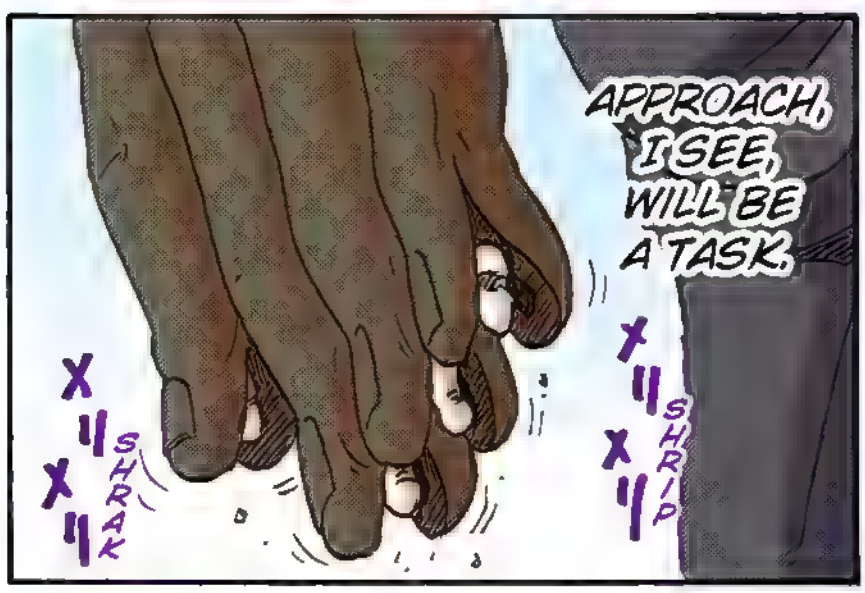
GAARA OF THE SAND...

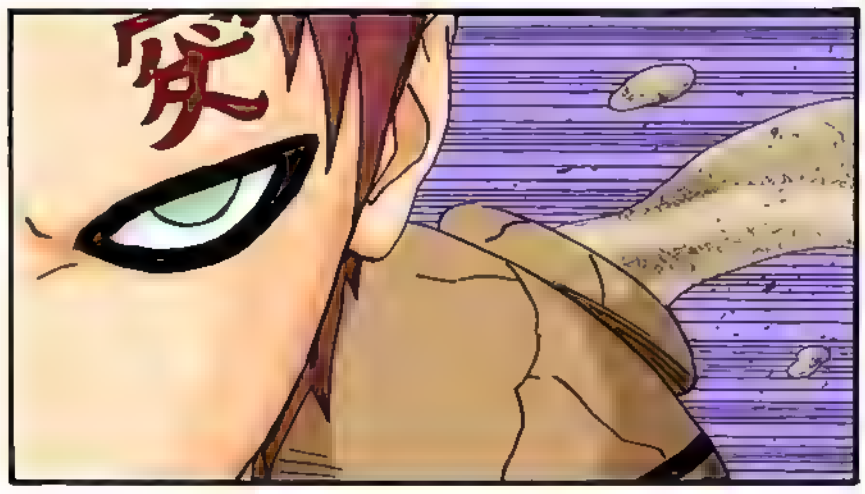
SLURR

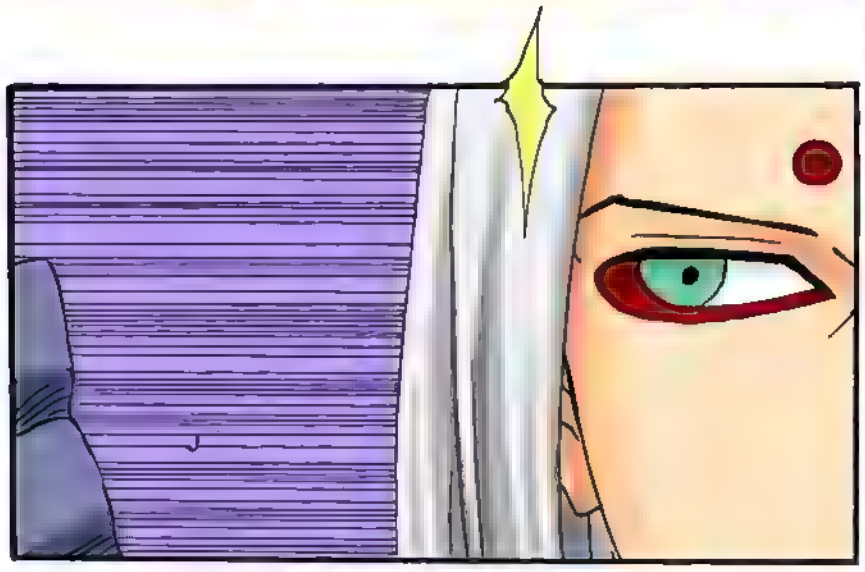
SLUR

愛

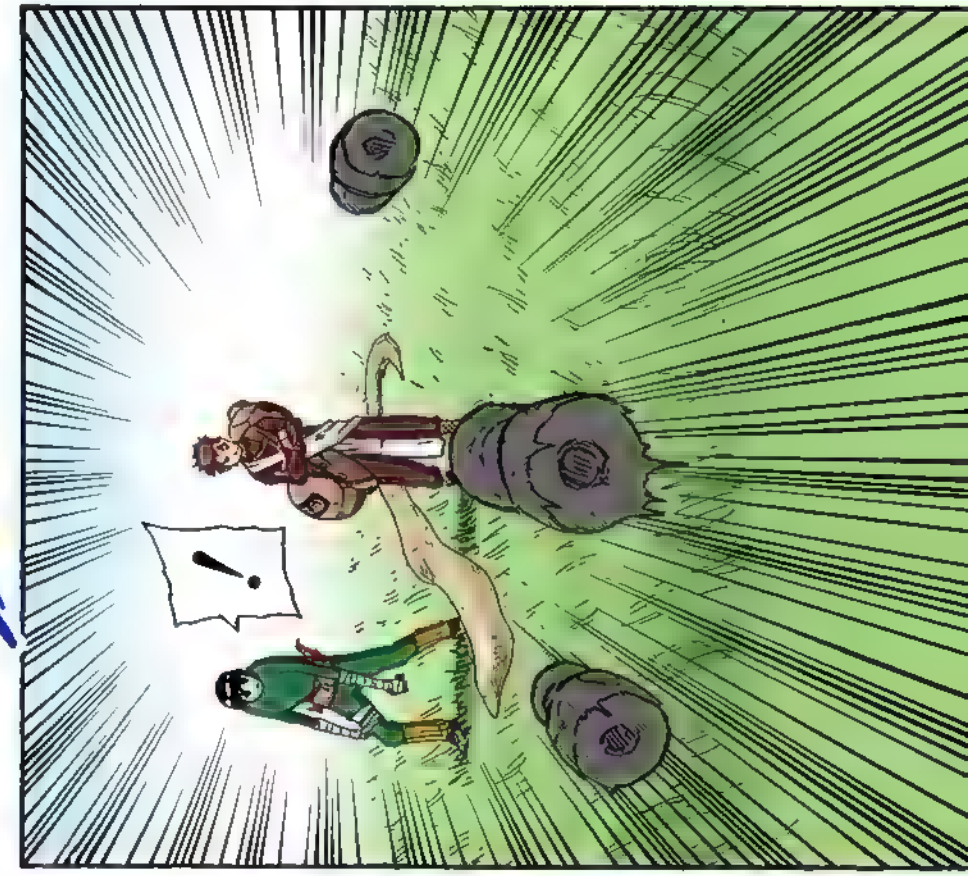
SSS


APPROACH. I SEE, WILL BE A TASK.
X11 SHRAK
X11 SHRAK
X11 SHRIP
X11 SHRIP

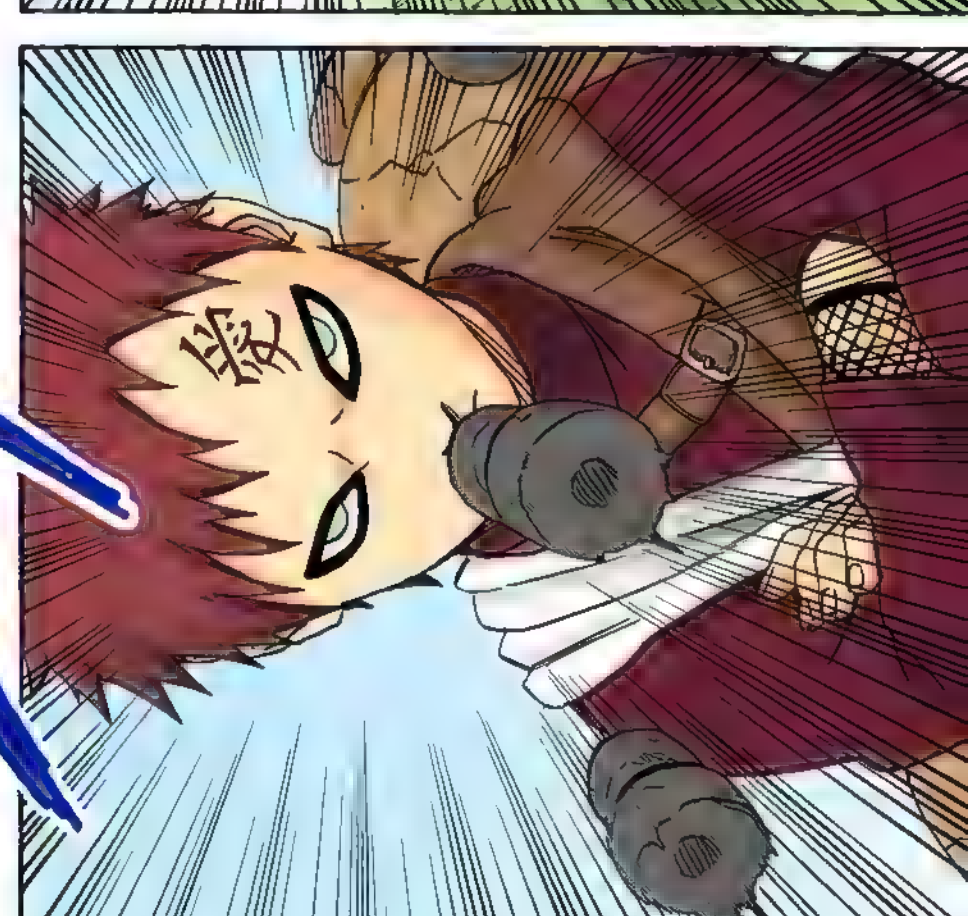


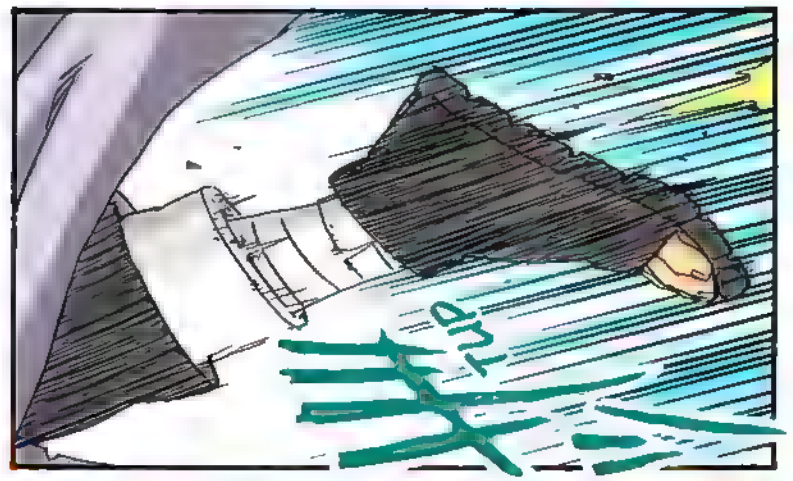


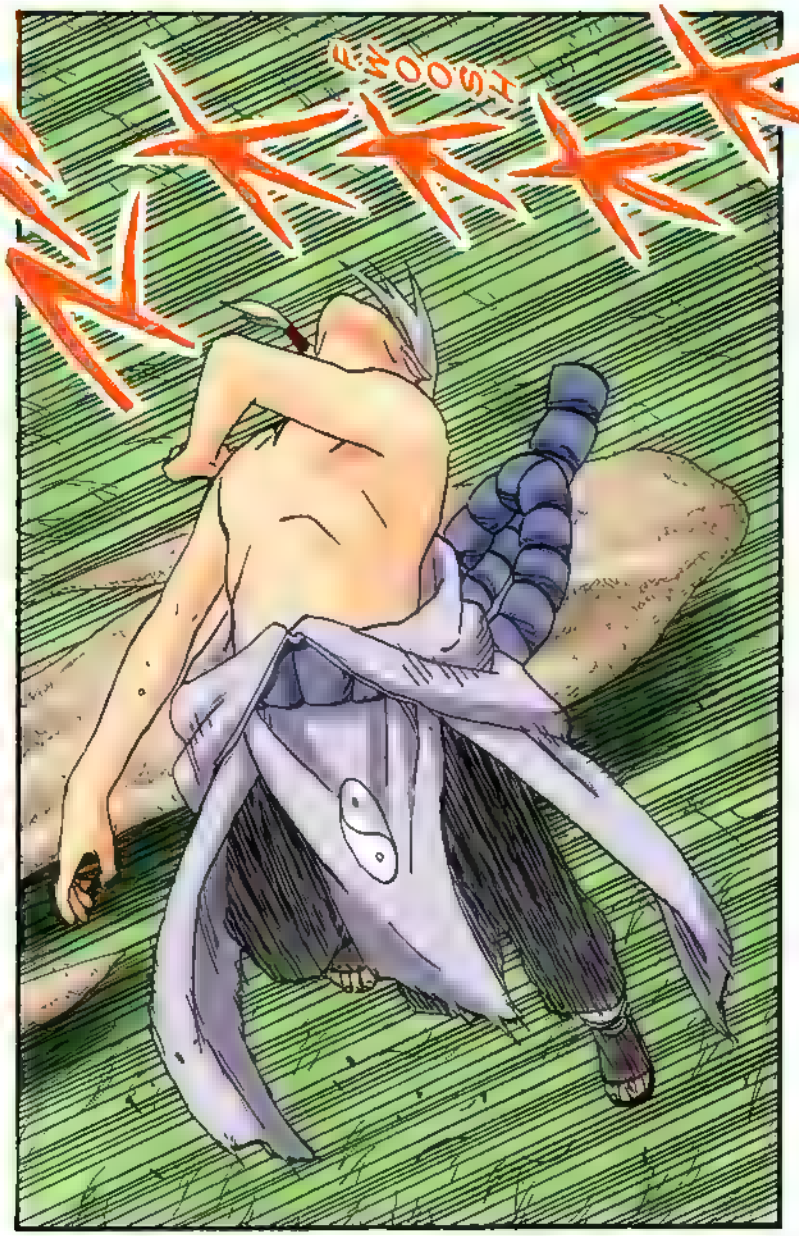
THIS MAN IS...NO MELEE FIGHTER.
THE SAND DEPENDS HIM LIKE A REEF...


!

WOOM


怒


ドゴ


ドゴォン!!

KRA

HE'S A MASTER.

THERE'S NO WASTE TO HIS MOVEMENT.

!!

!

TUP

WOOP

SHOOM

FSSH

ガ TAK
ガ TAK
ガ TAK
SH
WOOM
砂時雨!!
SUNA SHIGURE! SAND SHOWER!!
RELIANT ONLY ON SAND.
A FOOLISH STAGE NAME...
AND BETRAYED BY THE SIZE OF HIS STORE.
SHF
BUT THE SAND IN HIS CONTROL MUST BE LIMITED TO WHAT'S IN THAT GOURD.
OFFENSE AND DEFENSE IN ONE...
POSSH
SHUUSSH
!
WHAT A ONE-TRICK PONY.

!?

SHISH

SHISH

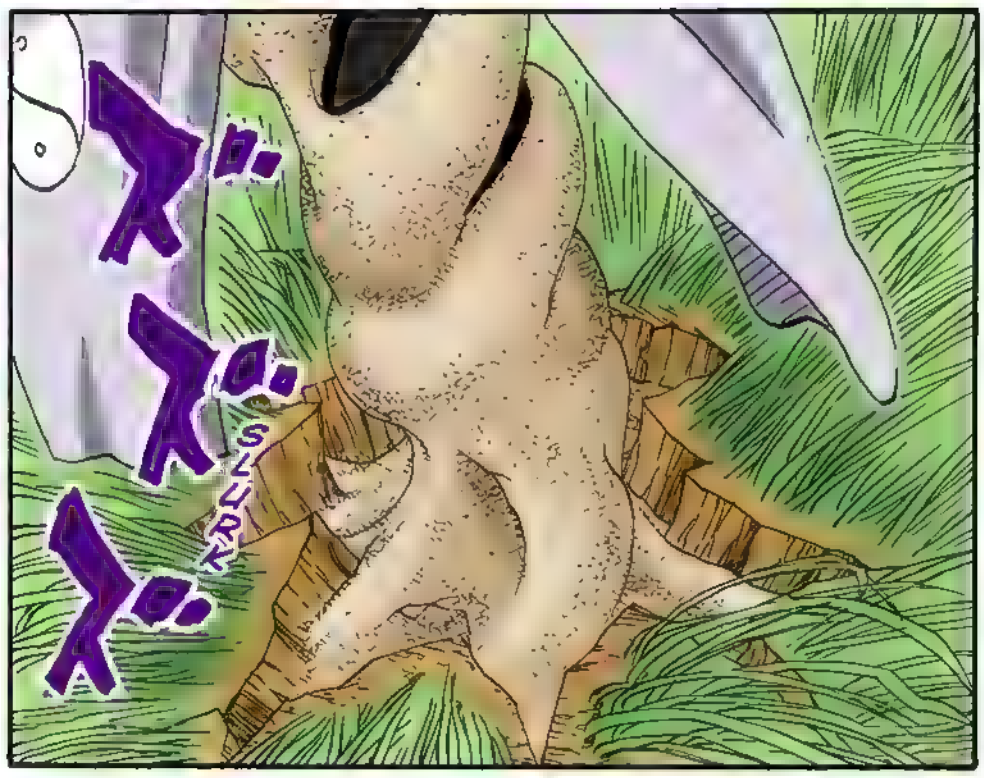
.....!

I CAN DO ANYTHING.

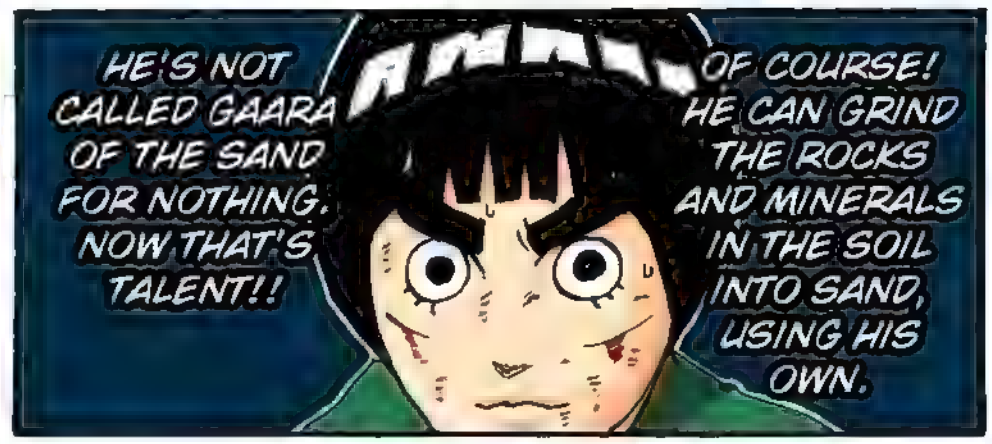
SO LONG AS I HAVE SAND...

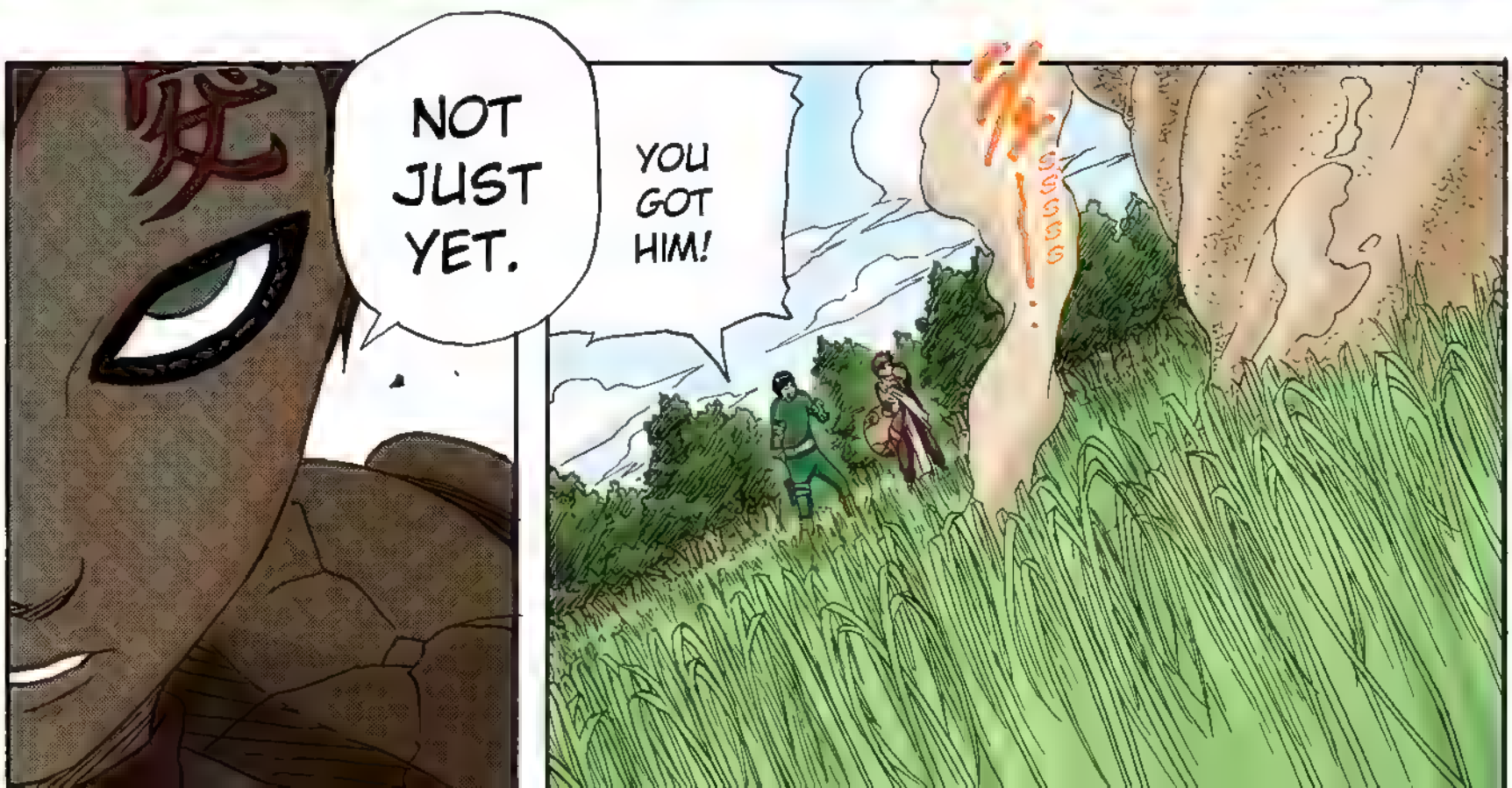
SHF

PAK
PAK
PAK
PAK
PAK
!!


SLURK

MAKING SAND FROM SOIL IS NO ART.
TELL ME AGAIN WHO'S STUPID.


HE'S NOT CALLED GAARA OF THE SAND FOR NOTHING. NOW THAT'S TALENT!!
OF COURSE! HE CAN GRIND THE ROCKS AND MINERALS IN THE SOIL INTO SAND, USING HIS OWN.


NOT JUST YET.
YOU GOT HIM!
SSSSS

SABAKU-SOSO! IMPLODING SAND FUNERAL!!

SPUK

フシュ

SPUK

フシュ

砂漠葬!!

(さばくそう)

SPUK

フシュー

SPUK

フシュー

愛

RIK

PUM
PUM
.....
愛
SHLURK
SHLURK
MMF
SLURK
SLURK
!

MORE BONES, HUH? HE'S A REAL FREAK, ISN'T HE...

HE'S CERTAINLY A NUISANCE.

THAT PRES-SURE WAS A FEAT.

WITHOUT THIS LAYER I CREATED UNDERNEATH MY SKIN, I WOULD HAVE BEEN DEAD MEAT FOR SURE.

I UNDERES-TIMATED YOU...

AND YET YOUR SAND WON'T HOLD ME TWICE.

SHRK

SHRK

SHRK

SHRK

SHRK

TUMP

!

BOFF

BOFF

FWIP

BOFF

BOFF

BOFF

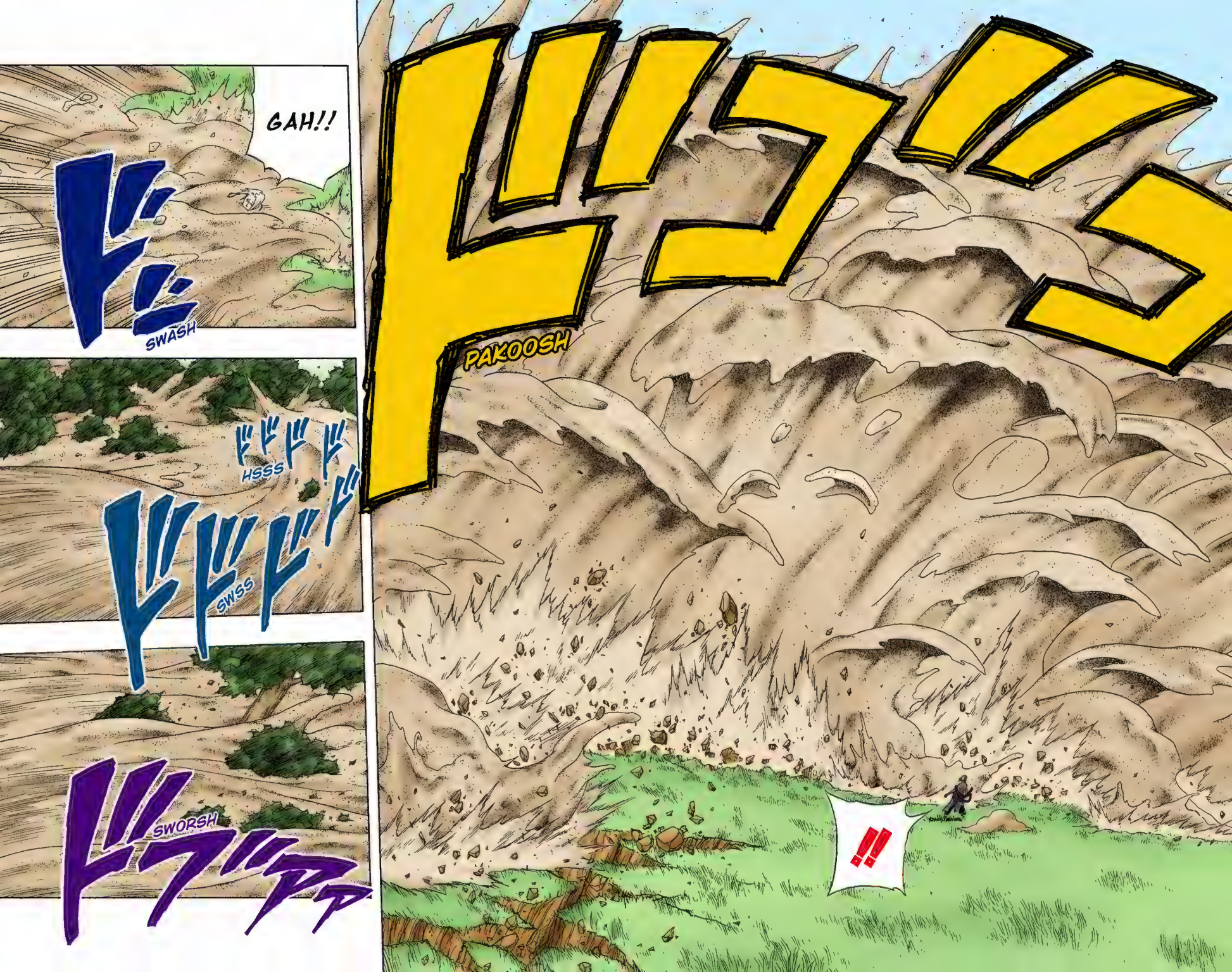
流砂瀑流破!!
(りゅうさばくりゅうは)

RYUSA BAKURYU!
SAND TSUNAMI!!

!?

SHA

FOOF


GAH!!
SWASH
HSSS
SWSS
SWORSH
PAKOOSH
!!

SWASSH

BAFF

YOU... YOU DID IT...

NOT YET.

SHF

砂瀑大葬!!

SHAKUNK

WHOA...!

SABAKU TAISO! TOTAL SAND FUNERAL!!

HE'S EVEN STRONGER THAN WHEN I FOUGHT HIM...

WOW... WHAT A GUY...

愛

.....

.....!?

HUH?!

WON'T HE EVER GIVE UP?

SLURK

SLURK

216: HALBERD AND SHIELD...!!

ナンバー 216：ほこ と たて …!!

SLURK

WHAT IS THAT?!

.....

SLURK

SHOOSH

WOSH

砂縛極!!
SABAKUKYU THE COFFIN OF CRUSHING SAND!
RIK
PFAF
TUMP
SWUK
MMF
SKU
SH
KRUP
SLURR
TAK
TAK
SPAP
SKASHOOSH
THOP

SHAA

ズーズードド

ZWOO

BAFF

愛

WHAT IS THAT FORM?!

!!?

ドドドド

DOOOOD

ズオ

SHUNK

SKISSH

!!

ズザザザ...

SSSSS

BLOOF

ポン

IS THIS ALL THERE IS TO YOUR SO-CALLED TOTAL DEFENSE?

WHAT A JOKE.

RRG...

.....!

.....!

HE'S NOT YOUR ONLY OPPONENT!

FSSH

I'M HERE TOO!!

!

SO YOU COAT YOUR-SELF WITH SAND...

I SEE...

KA

POW

PFOOF

!!

KWAH

!

!

SPONG

WHOA!!

.....

'BOFF

UGH!

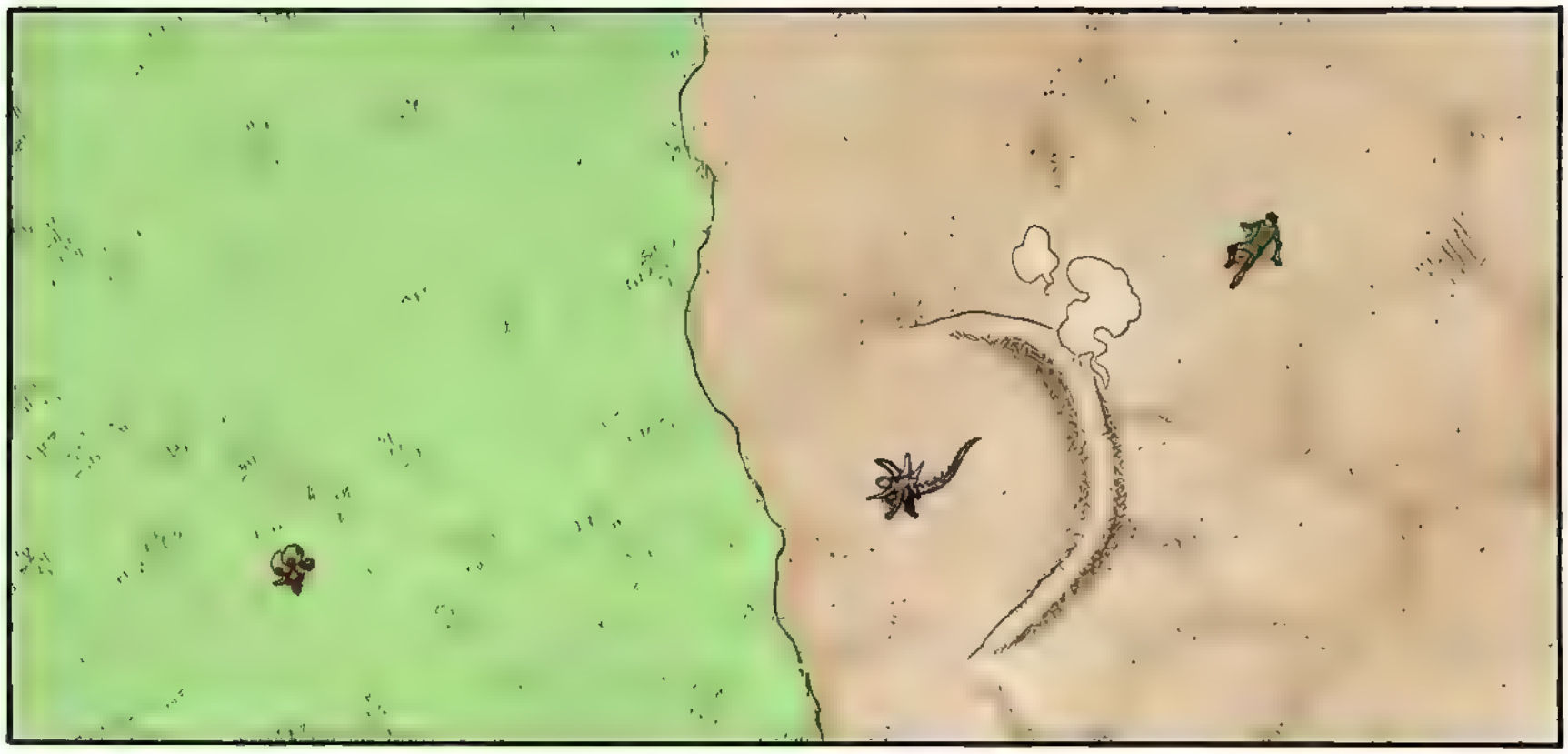
THIS SAND'S A NUISANCE...

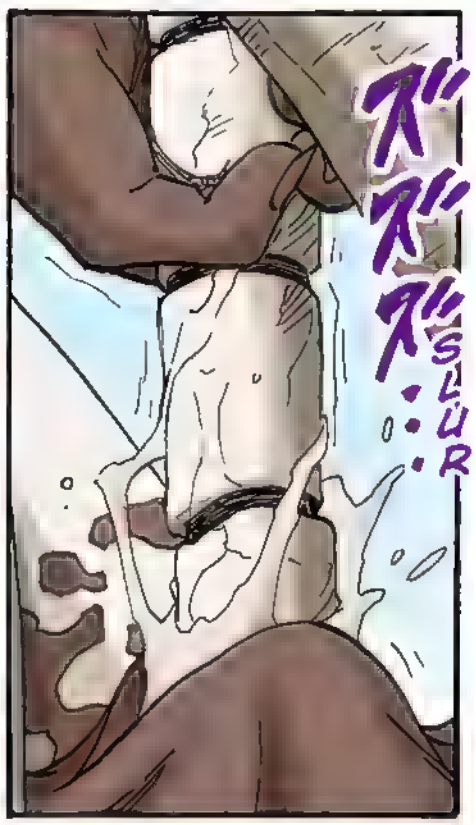
YOU'RE THE FIRST TO GO... GAARA!

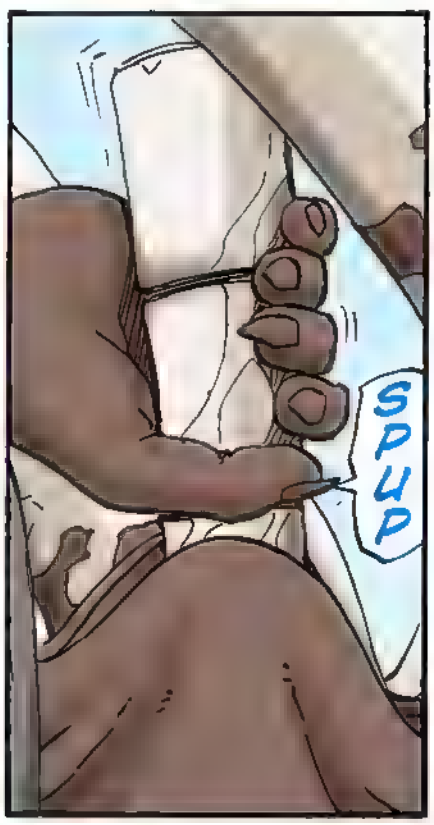
THROB

MY BODY'S STILL... I'LL ONLY GET IN THE WAY...

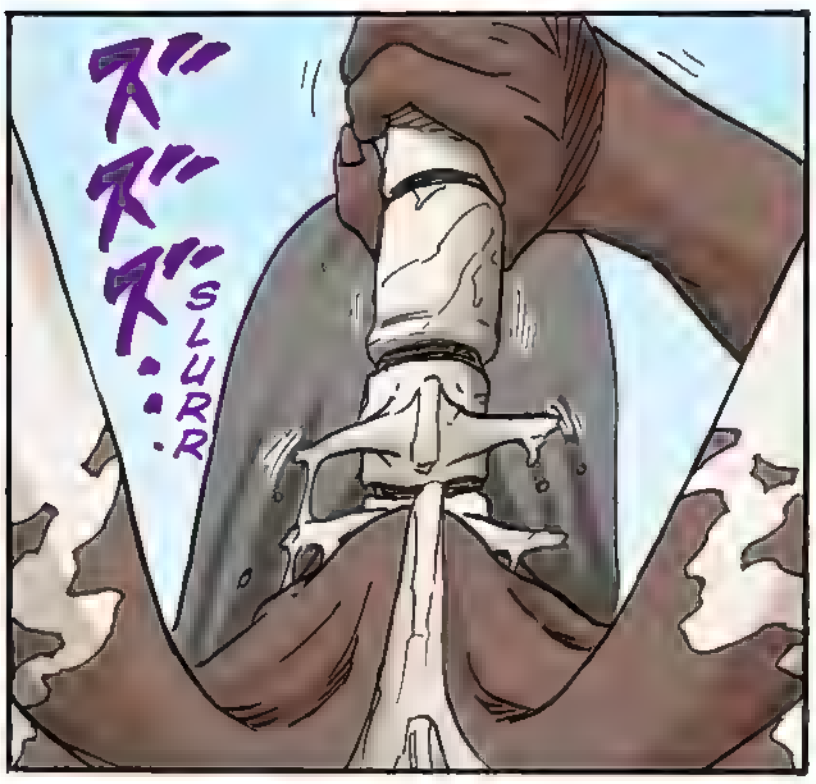
URG...

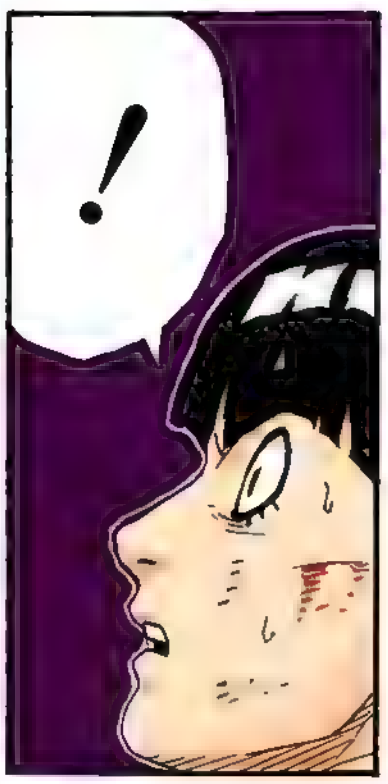



SLURR


SPUP

SHRUK


SLURR


!

……!

SLURRGÉ

TESSENKA NO MAI! IRON FLOWER DANCE!!

SHAA

VINE!

DID HE JUST PULL OUT HIS... SPINE?!

KRAK

SNAP

KRAK

POFF

POFF

POFF

POFF

POFF

SKRIK

SLURR

FLOWER!

.....

愛

KRAK RAK

KRAK

SLURR

THEY'LL PIERCE THROUGH YOUR BODY ALONG WITH THE SAND SHIELD.

MY BONES HAVE CALCIFIED AS FAR AS THEY'LL GO.

SSSSS

……!?

愛

I GUESS TIME'S... RUNNING SHORT...

……

KOFF

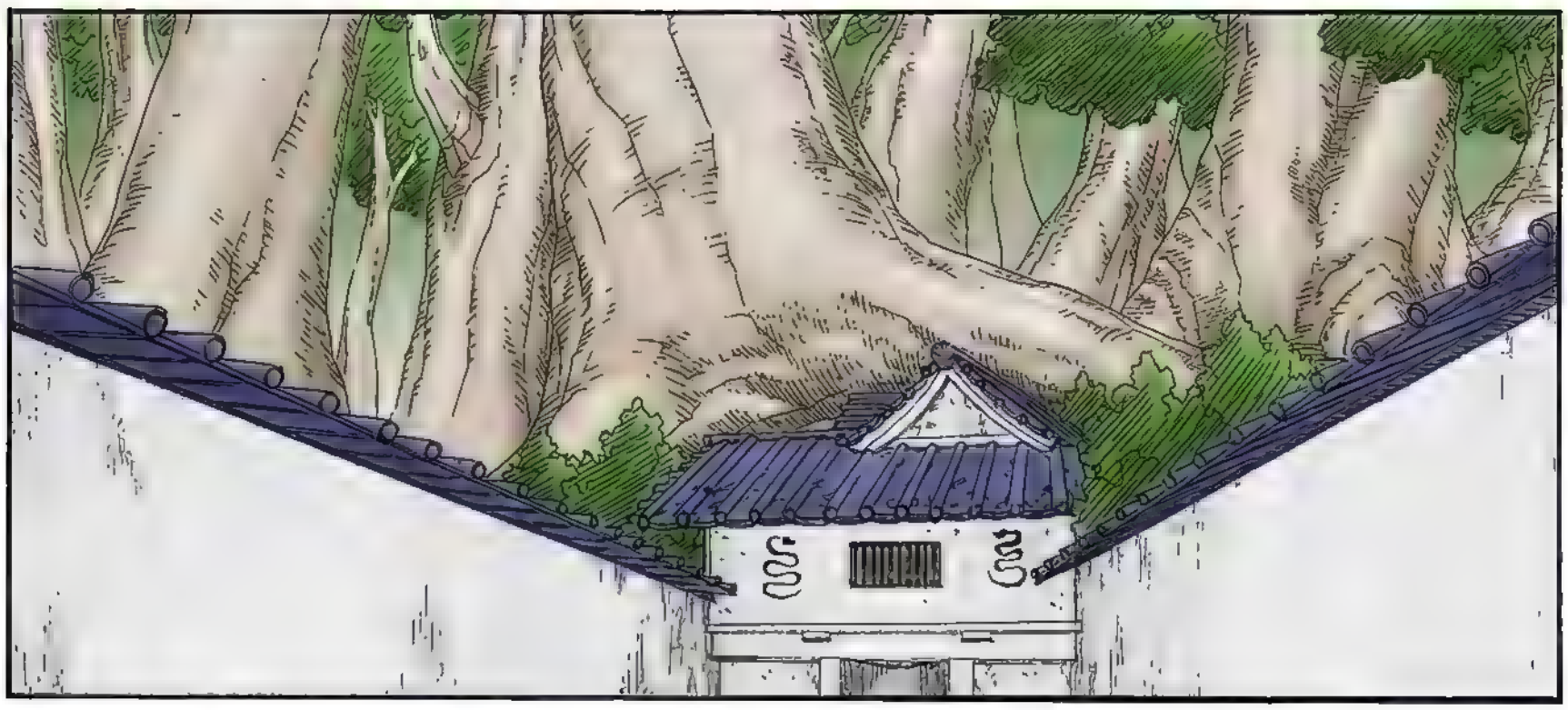
KOOM

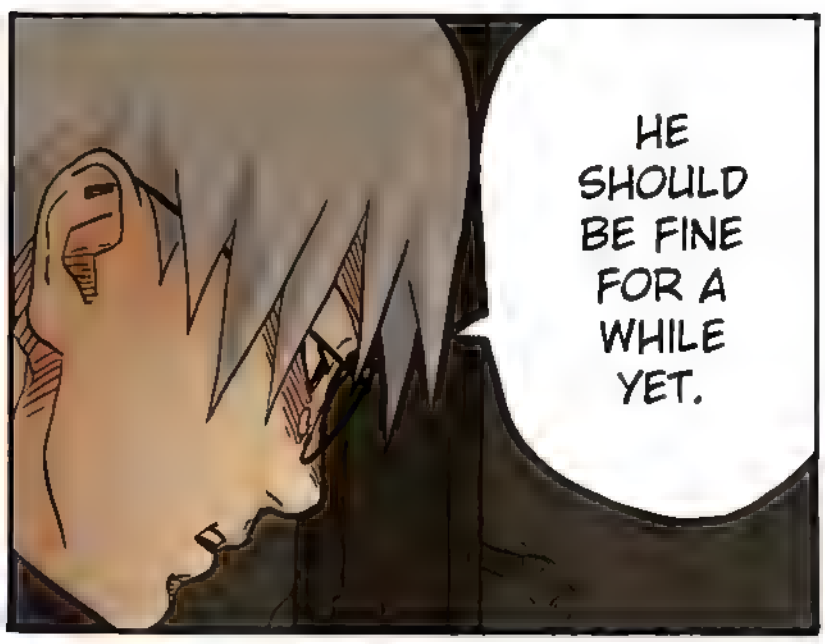
BA

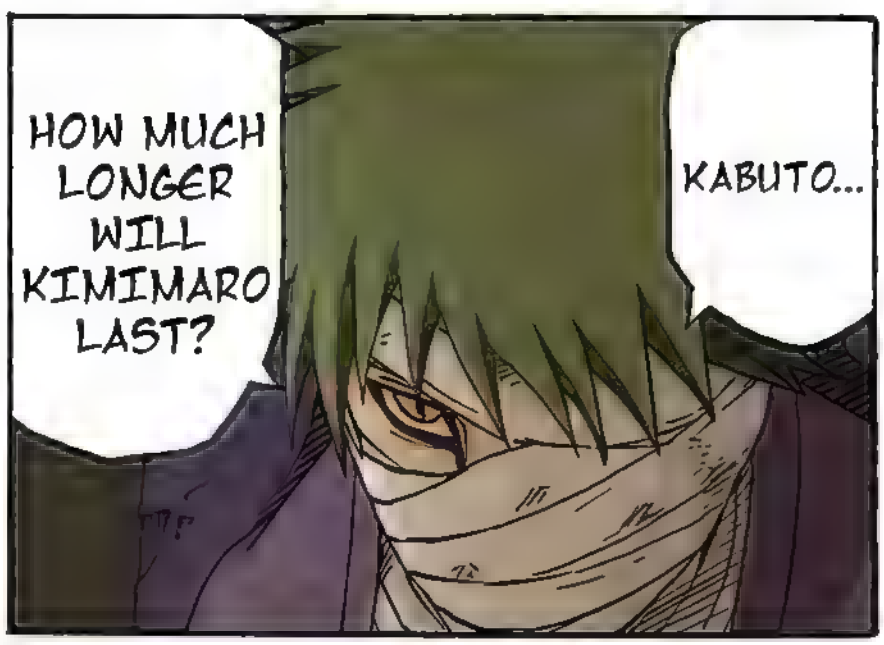
最強絶対防御・守鶴の盾!!

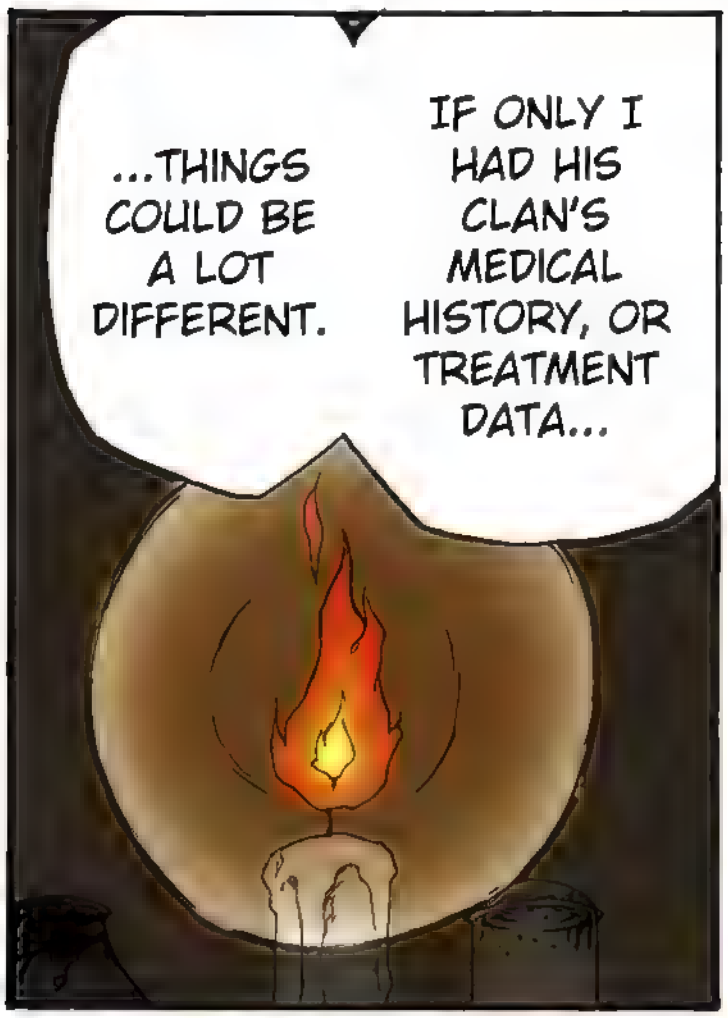
さいきょうぜったいぼうぎょ・しゅかくのたて!!

TOTAL SAND DEFENSE! SHUKAKU'S SHIELD!




HE SHOULD BE FINE FOR A WHILE YET.


KABUTO...
HOW MUCH LONGER WILL KIMIMARO LAST?


...THINGS COULD BE A LOT DIFFERENT.
IF ONLY I HAD HIS CLAN'S MEDICAL HISTORY, OR TREATMENT DATA...

...THERE'S JUST TOO LITTLE INFORMATION ON HIS BODY.
I TREATED HIM THE BEST I COULD, BUT...

.....

IT'S JUST THE LAST STOP IN A BLOODY HISTORY.

THE ONLY THING I COULD DIG UP WAS AN ACCOUNT OF HOW HE FOUND HIMSELF THE LAST OF THE KAGUYA CLAN.

THE LAST OF THE CLAN.

THEN YOU RESCUED ONLY THE YOUNGEST AND MOST PROMISING OF THE LOT.

THE WHOLE FOOLISH CLAN WAS WIPED OUT WHEN IT CHALLENGED...

...THE GREAT NATION OF KIRIGAKURE, ON THEIR OWN.

BY WHAT I SAW OF THEM. THE BATTLEFIELD WAS THE ONLY PLACE THEY COULD FIND THEIR PEACE.

THE KAGUYA CLAN WAS A CLUTCH OF RABBLE, KNOWING ONLY THE THIRST FOR WAR.

.....

...YOU THOUGHT IT A WASTE TO LET HIM DIE.

AND YET...

...IS THE FINAL TASK OF A FOOL. RUSHING TO HIS OWN WELL-EARNED DEATH.

FIGHTING AGAINST A WELL-GOVERNED BODY. WITH ONLY THE WEIGHT OF FORCE TO SHOW FOR YOURSELF..

THE TIMES HAVE CHANGED.

BUT THE ERA OF BLOOD-THIRSTY BEAST HERDS HAS LONG PASSED.

THOSE STRONG. FIRM BONES...

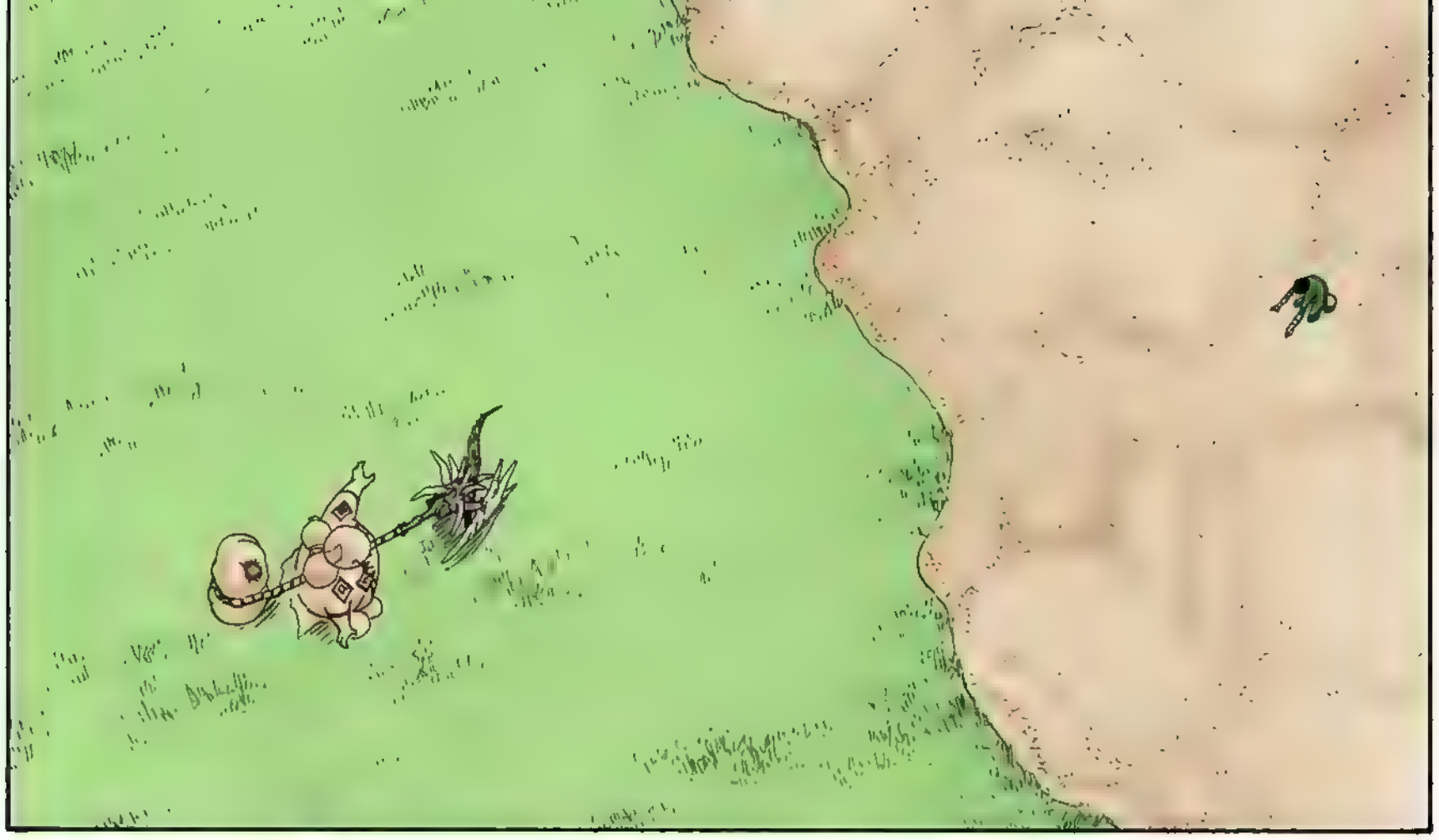
A DEFENSIVE SKILL TO FEND PHYSICAL BLOWS OF ANY FORM...

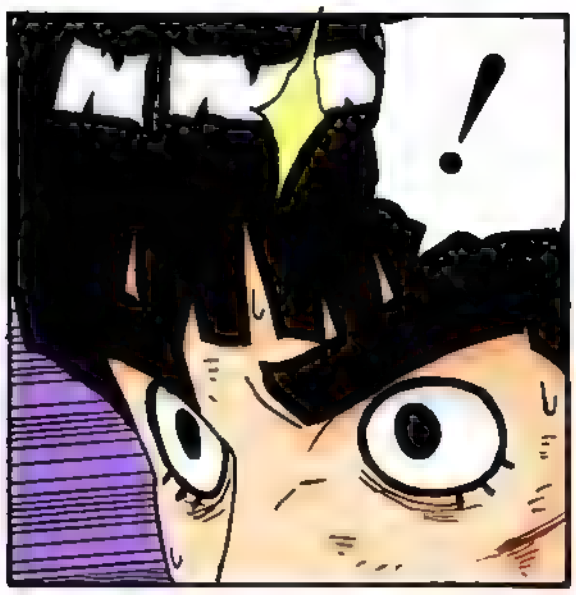
HMPH... WHO COULD RESIST HIS RARE KEKKEI GENKAI?

.....

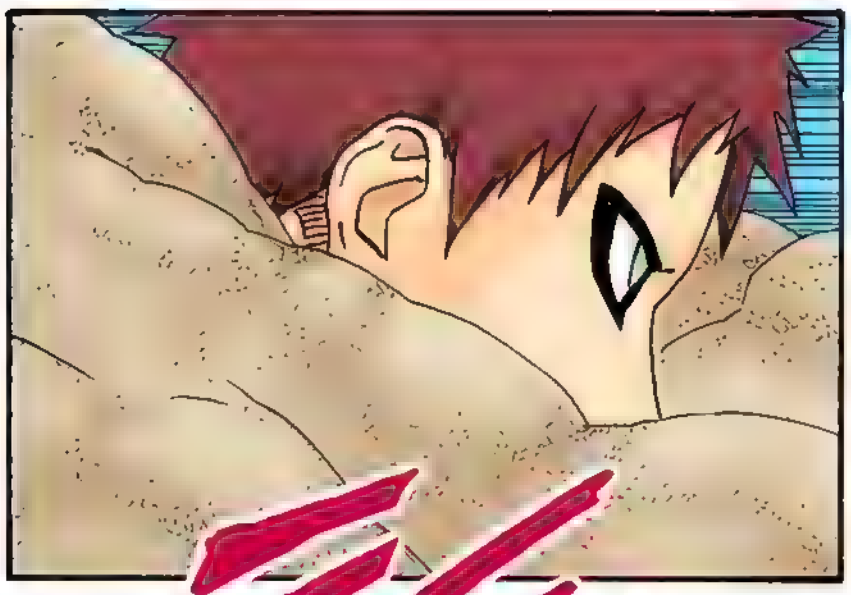
...HE CAN TURN HIS BONES INTO PIKES.

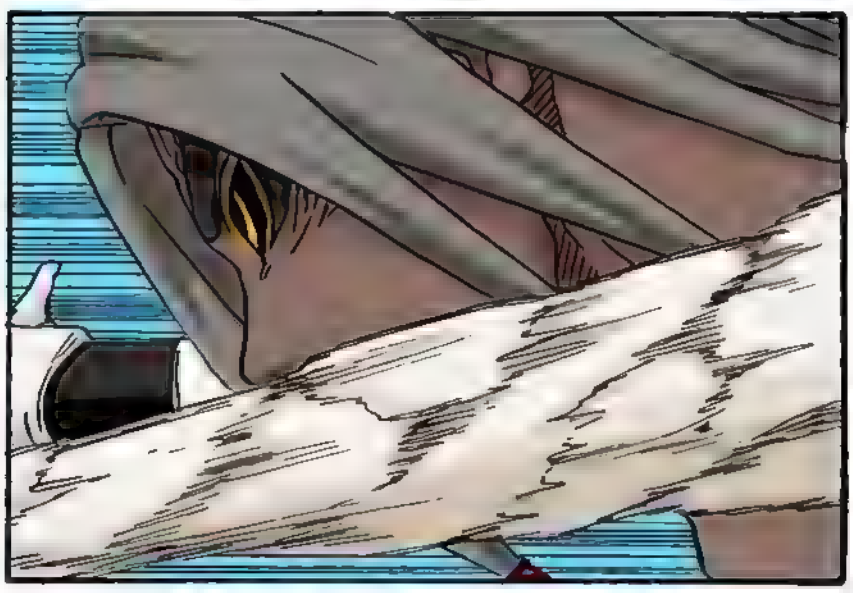
HIS OFFENSE IS EXCELLENT...





...AND WITH THAT UNUSUAL FORM IT'S TAKEN...YES! HE'LL BE FINE! NOTHING COULD POSSIBLY PENETRATE THAT...
HIS SAND SHIELD TRULY IS THE PERFECT DEFENSE... IT TAKES NO MORE THAN ONE FIGHT TO SEE THAT...





SHOOOM

PAKOOM

217: FOR THE MOST PRECIOUS

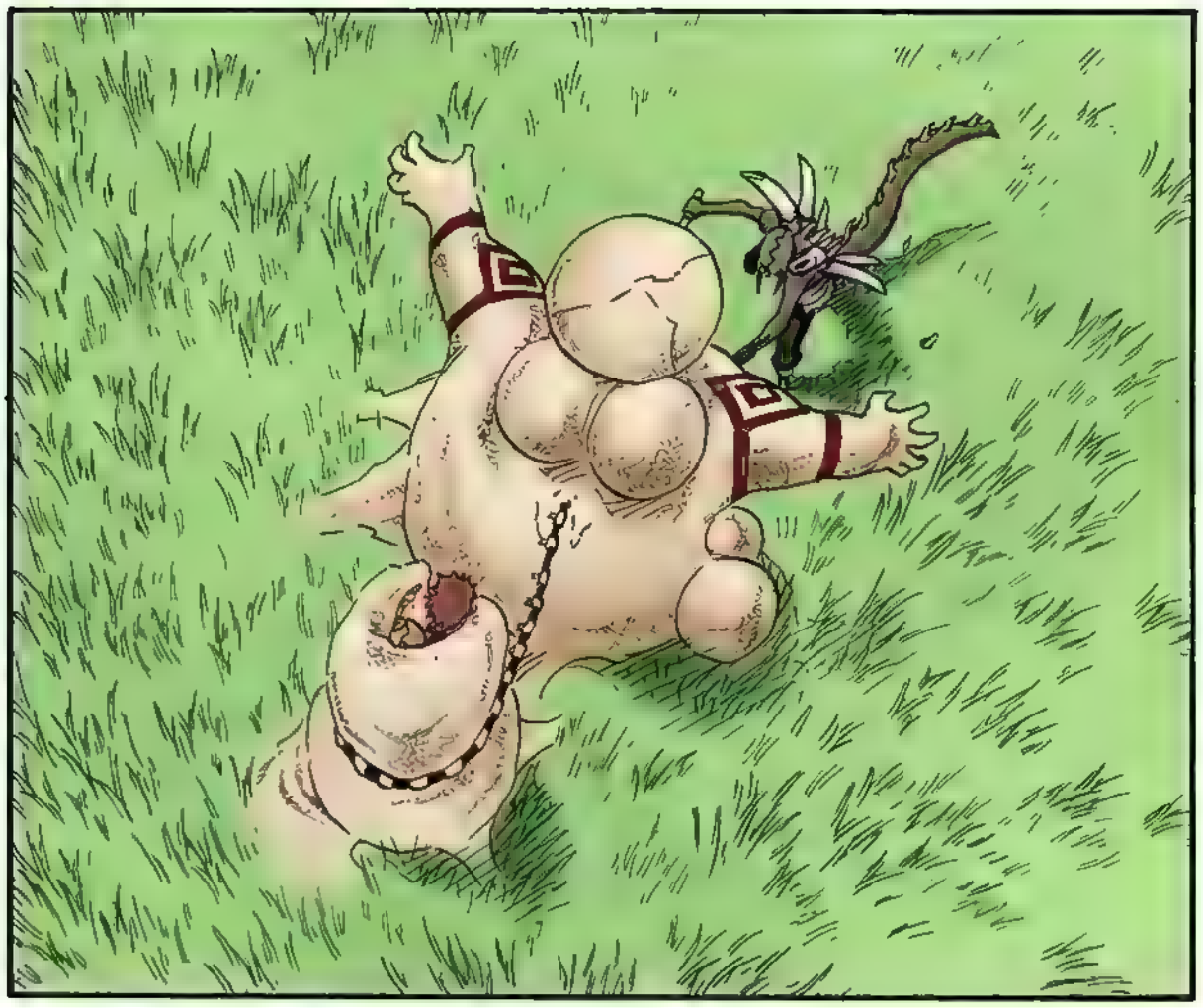
ナンバー
217：
大切（たいせつ）な者（もの）の為（ため）に

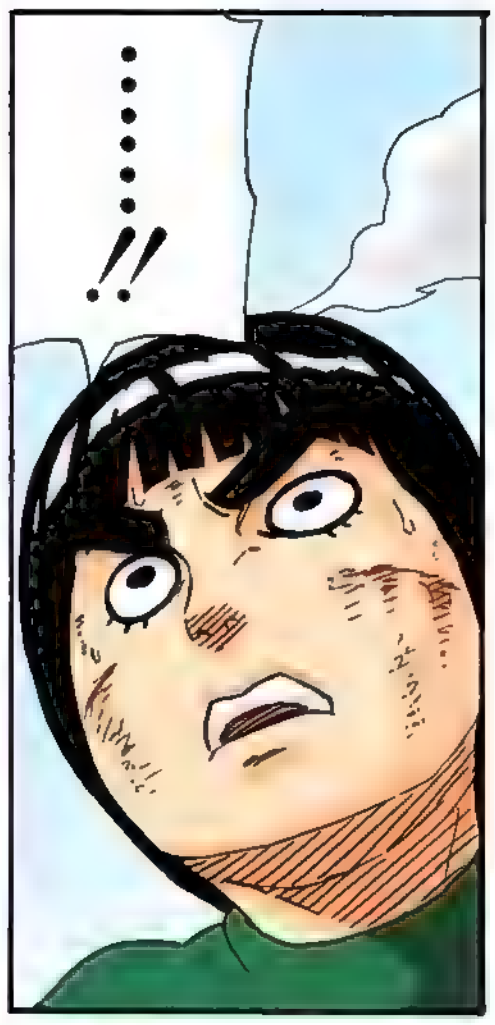
愛

KRAK

KRAK

RAK

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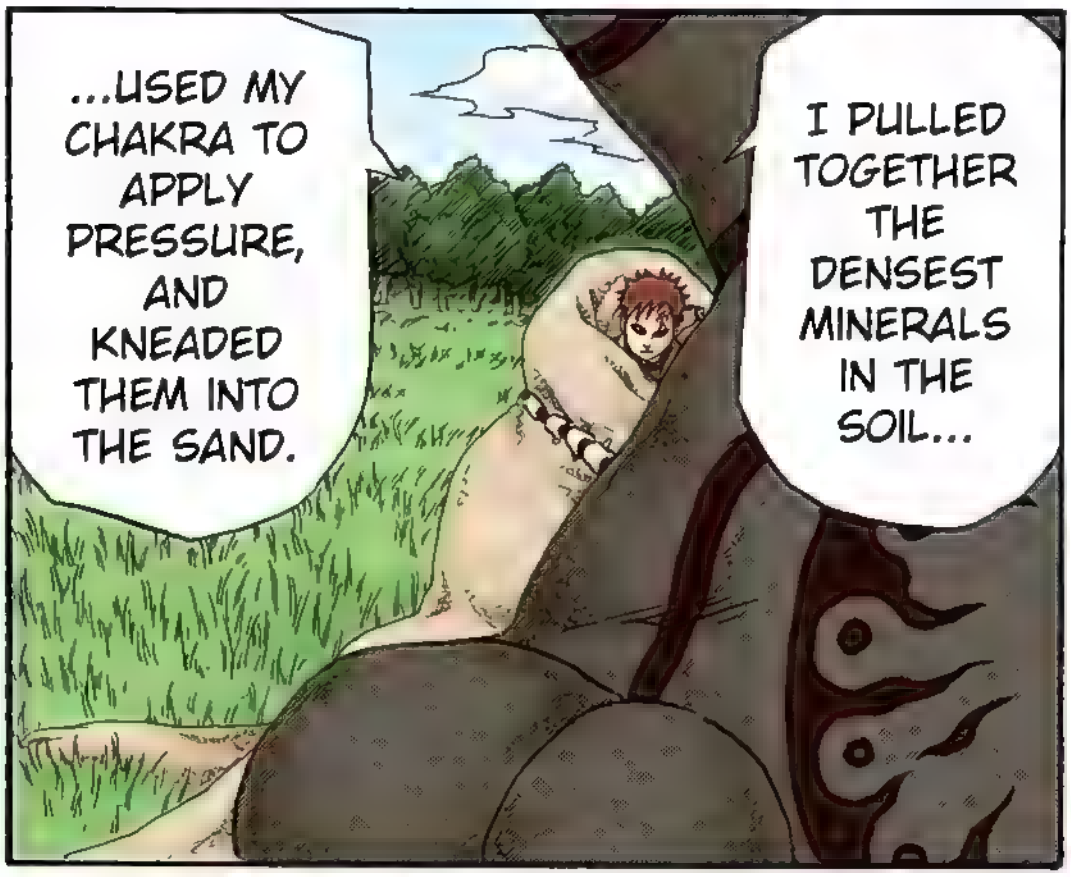
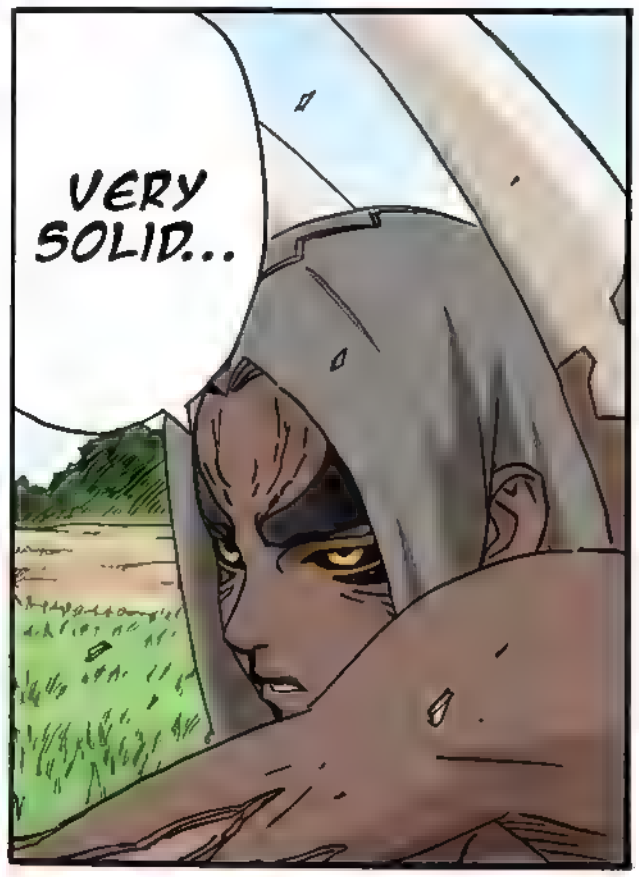

...USED MY CHAKRA TO APPLY PRESSURE, AND KNEADED THEM INTO THE SAND.
I PULLED TOGETHER THE DENSEST MINERALS IN THE SOIL...


VERY SOLID...

IT'S A KEKKEI GENKAI, YES?
THIS MOVE OF YOURS...
愛

.....

...A POWER I ALONE POSSESS.

IT IS OF THE KAGUYA CLAN...

...MY BODY IS RAVAGED WITH ILLNESS... MY DAYS ON EARTH...

...ARE NUM-BERED.

INDEED IT MAY BE SO...

FOR I AM NOT ALONE.

AND YET...I WILL NOT BE EXTIN-GUISHED.

THAT MEANS TODAY THE CLAN PERISHES.

SO YOU'RE THE LAST OF THE KAGUYA...

FOR THAT, I SHALL REMAIN FOREVER IN HIS HEART.

I AM AN ARM OF LORD OROCHIMARU'S AMBITION. I CARRIED OUT MY PART.

!

HOW SAD.

OROCHI-MARU BRAIN-WASHED YOU.

SHF

.....

FWIP

THIS IS IT.

I'VE DONE TOO MANY BIG MOVES... CHAKRA IS GETTING PRECIOUS.

SLURK

SSS

...!!

SLURSHHH

ズ"ズ"ズ"

SPLURRP

.....

WITH THAT SAND PRESSURE ON EVERY INCH OF YOUR BODY, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE A FINGER.

I'M SUCKING YOU DOWN AND BURYING YOU TWO HUNDRED METERS DOWN.

愛

.....

.....

YOU DID IT...

THIS TIME, YOU... REALLY DID IT.

.....

BRACKEN DANCE!

SAWARABI NO MAI!

PA SPAK SPAK SPAK

!!

THOK THOK THOK THOK THOK

THAK THAK

!

SHOULDN'T HE BE HERE BY NOW?

DRIP

A WATCHED KETTLE NEVER BOILS.

I'M GETTING IMPA-TIENT.

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO STANDS IN HIS WAY...

THERE'S NOBODY WHO COULD OVERCOME KIMIMARO.

I'M SORRY...

IT'S JUST THAT...LORD OROCHIMARU, YOU KNOW.

KABUTO... DO NOT PATRONIZE ME.

IT'S JUST IN HOW YOU USE IT.

THIS IS THE SAME SAND I'M ALWAYS THROWING AROUND...

FWUP

FWUP

FWUP

I NEVER IMAGINED YOU COULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

YOU... YOU SAVED ME.

HE'LL NEVER GET OUT OF THAT.

HUF

HE WAS ONE TOUGH OPPONENT, BUT THAT SHOULD BE THE END OF HIM...

KRAK
KAK

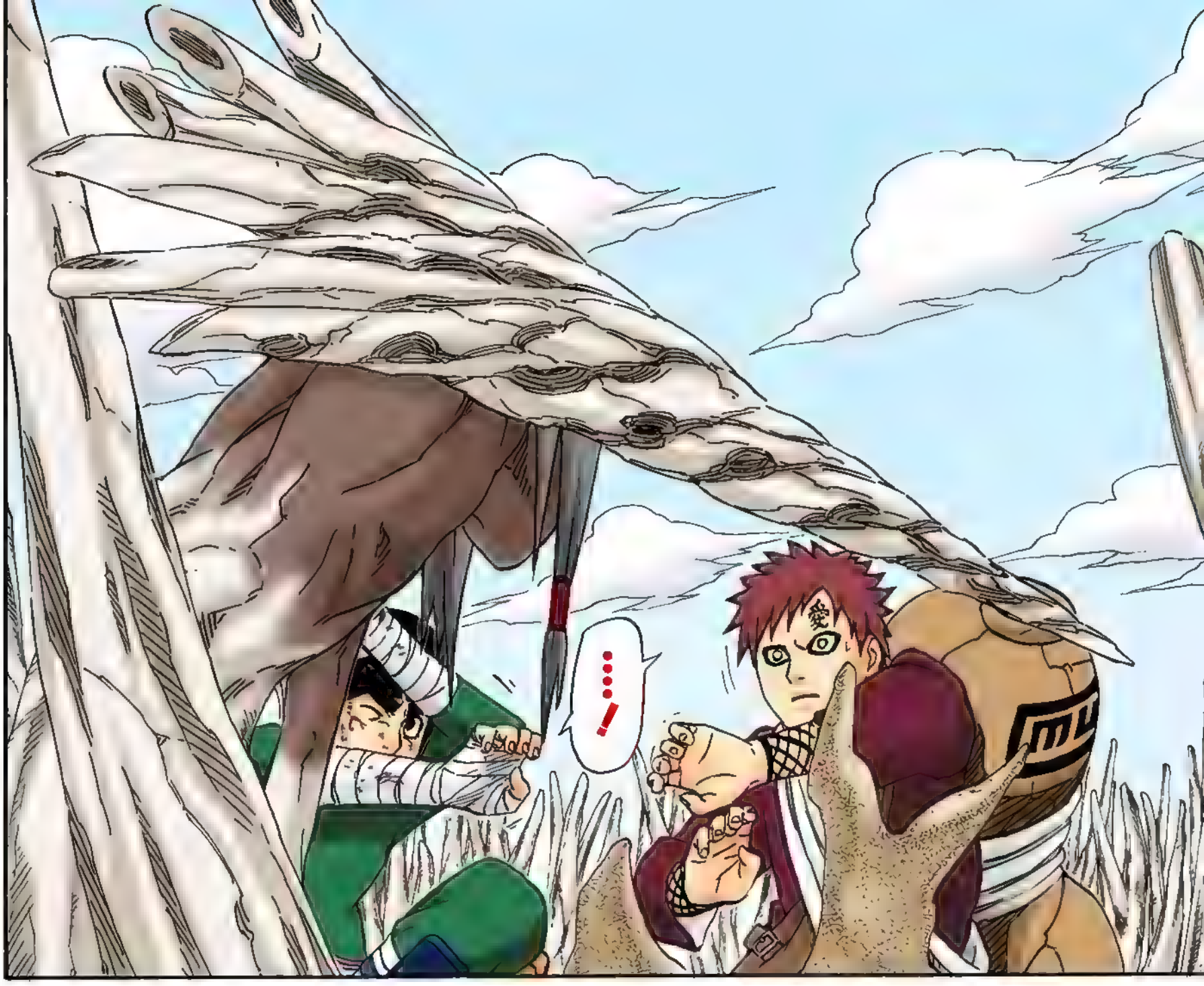
I'M NOT BRAIN-WASHED...

SLUR

HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO TRULY UNDERSTANDS.

!!

YOU KNOW NOTHING!!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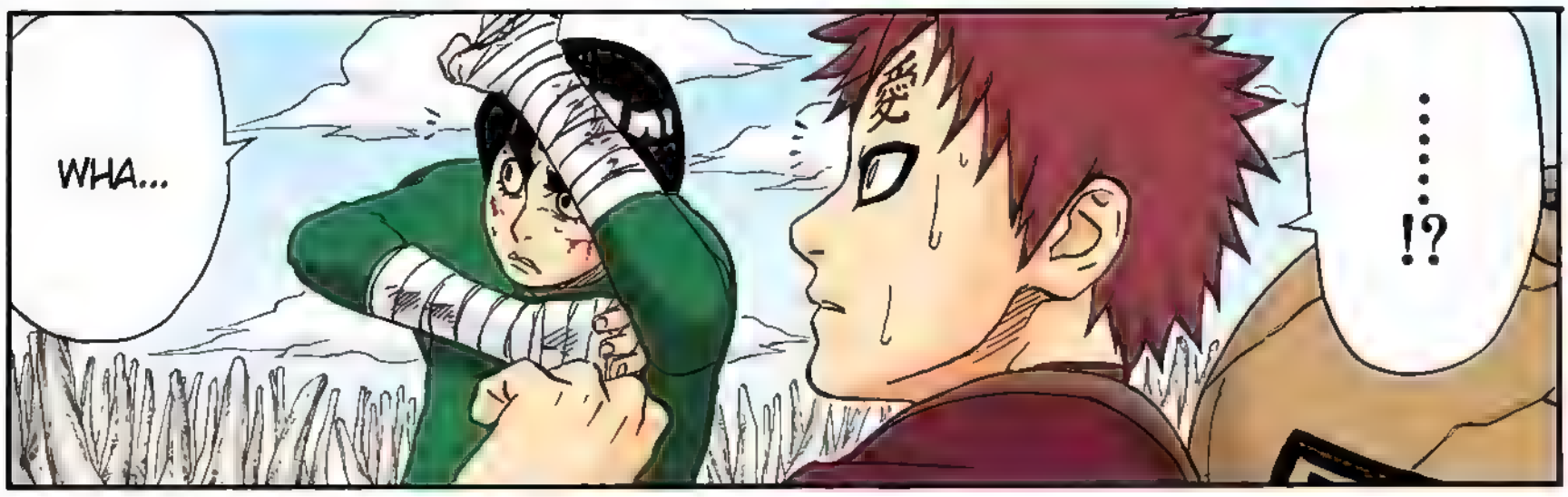
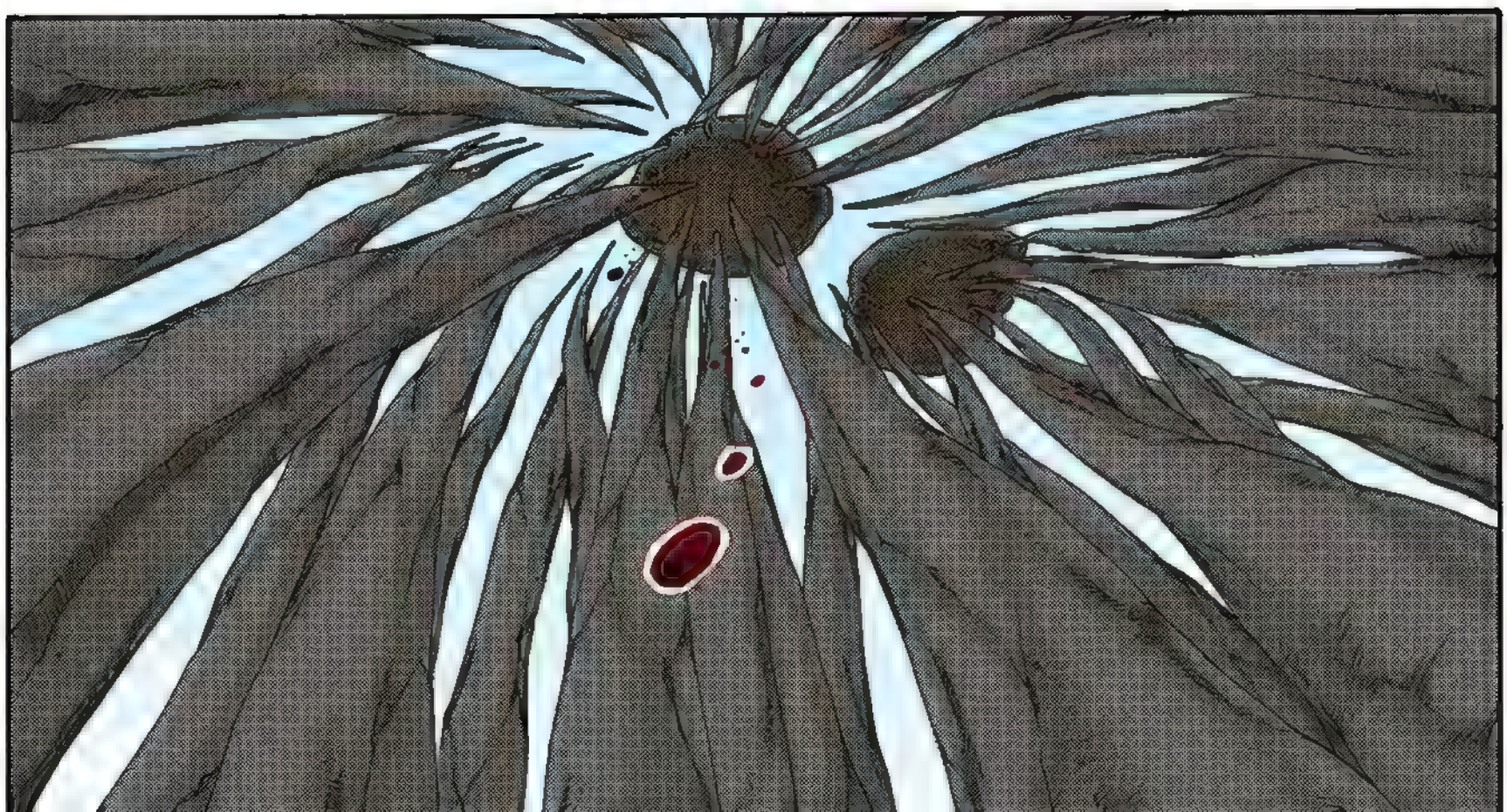

WHA...
!?



HE'S... DEAD.

PLIP

HE WILL FIND ME. OR I WILL FIND HIM FIRST!

SASUKE... I MUST HURRY HIS ARRIVAL ANY WAY I CAN.

NO, NOT KIMIMARO. HE'S NOTHING TO ME NOW.

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

HE HAD ME...

HE JUST KNEW I WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH WAS ALL!

DON'T TALK ABOUT MY MASTER THAT WAY!!

HE WASN'T MEDDLING!

...A BIG PART OF SKILL IS LUCK.

MY MASTER ALWAYS USED TO SAY...

YOU MEAN THAT MEDDLE-SOME TRAINER?

THE MORE PRECIOUS YOUR IDOL IS TO YOU...

WHEN YOU FEEL THE HONOR OF YOUR IDOL UNDER SCRUTINY...

YOU BECOME ENRAGED... AS IF IT WERE YOUR OWN HONOR BEING QUESTIONED.

YOU'RE THE SAME, THEN.

FOR I AM NOT ALONE. FOR THAT, I SHALL REMAIN FOR-EVER IN HIS HEART.

I WILL NOT BE EXTIN-GUISHED ...

……!

YOU KNOW NOTHING!!

パキキキ.

HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO TRULY UNDER-STANDS.

...THE HARDER YOU FIGHT FOR HIM.

HE ALSO...

...REMINDS ME OF UZUMAKI NARUTO.

I CAN'T SEE HOW ANYONE COULD THINK SOMEONE BAD WAS SO PRECIOUS.

JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE'S PRECIOUS DOESN'T MEAN HE IS GOOD.

STILL...

!?

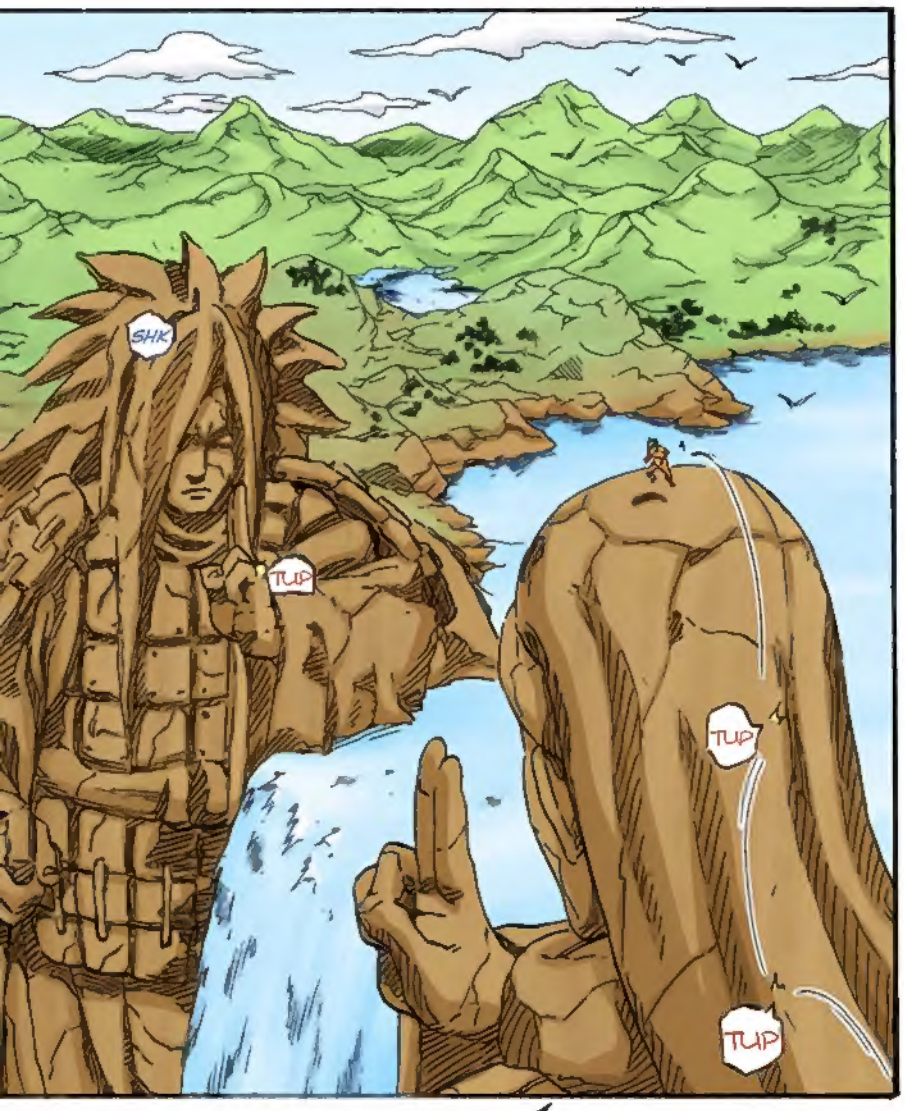
.....

EVER IF YOU KNOW HE'S EVIL...

...YOU JUST CAN'T OVERCOME YOU OWN SOLITUDE.

I DIS-AGREE.

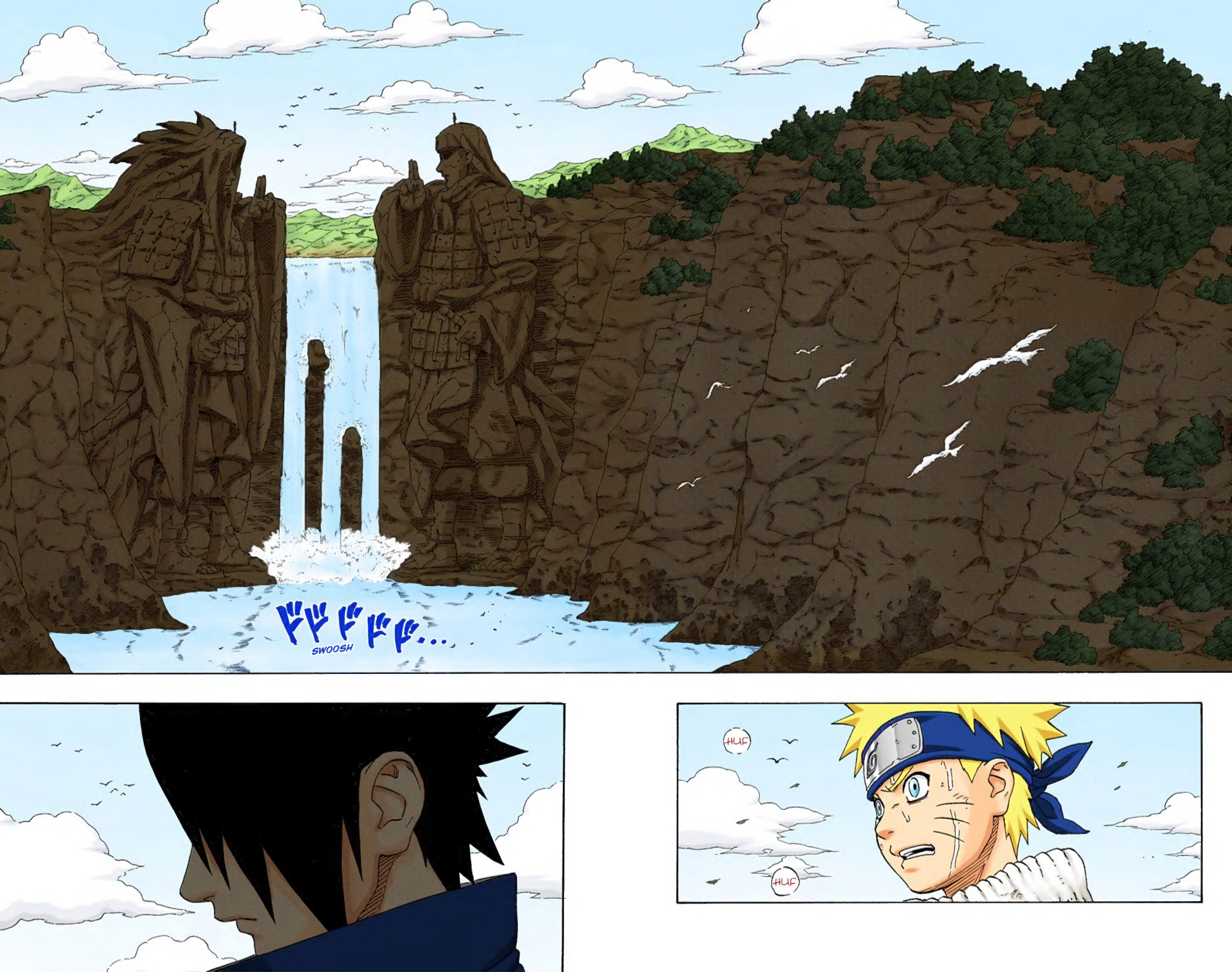
愛


SHK
TUP
TUP
TUP

SWASSH

SASUKE!!

HUF
HUF
SHHK
PUP


ドドドドド…
SWOOSH
HUF
HUF